

UEFA delays decision on fate of national team

English clubs get indefinite Euro-ban

From Iain Guest in Basle

English football clubs were banned yesterday from taking part in European competitions for an indefinite period of time.

Decisions will be taken later on whether to allow the English national team to take part in the next European football championship and whether Liverpool should face specific sanctions, said Mr Jacques Georges, the French president of UEFA's executive committee.

He said after the committee met for two hours and 45 minutes that entries from English clubs for UEFA competitions would not be accepted. The UEFA disciplinary committee would rule on Liverpool's case.

Reading from a brief communiqué, Mr Georges said that new measures will be taken to reinforce security in football stadiums and their surroundings.

He opened the press conference by asking journalists to rise and observe a few seconds' silence in honour of the 38 people killed in the Brussels disaster.

UEFA was ready to take any sanctions that would deal with the "violence that is little by little killing our sport". New there are small incidents, small fairs, everything will be sanctioned and punished. We owe this to the memory of those who died.

He appealed for a campaign of education to stamp out hooliganism.

Mr Louis Wouters, president of the Belgian Football Association, who represented UEFA on the night of the tragedy, attacked the Belgian police force in charge of security at the match.

He said that he had asked

Hooligans avoided arrest in riot mayhem

By Derek Brown in Brussels and Gareth Parry

Not a single Briton was arrested by the Belgian police in the riotous rioting which cost 38 lives in the Heysel stadium last Wednesday. Only nine Britons are in custody and they were all arrested for pre-match offences.

Chills for the culprits to be dealt with severely can now be answered only by a massive detective exercise in England to identify and arrest the rioters seen by millions of television viewers.

Mercy's Police will start the process today when a special squad of detectives is activated to hunt down the Liverpool hooligans involved in the riot. Officers from the CID and Special Branch will initially concentrate on photographs and video film stills. Anyone arrested could be extradited to Belgium.

The Attorney-General, Sir Michael Havers, QC, said that Britons suspected of being involved in the riot, would not be charged and tried in Britain, as has been suggested as a possibility by Mr Jean Gol, the Belgian Justice Minister.

The nine Britons in custody in Brussels were picked up during the sporadic outbreaks of violence and their which preceded the ill-fated match.

More than 1,000 police and paramilitary gendarmes were present at the Heysel during the worst of the violence and they totalling 2,500 after reinforcements were rushed from all over Belgium.

Their concern was to restore order and then to clear the 58,000-strong crowd so only a handful of arrests were made. Some of the arrested were charged with offences like being drunk, criminal damage, and resisting arrest.

Four Italians were also picked up during the general mayhem. They include a Juventus fan Umberto Salussoglia, aged 22, who was charged with the man seen on television holding a pistol. Belgian police sources said that Salussoglia has not been identified, and no gun has been found. He is charged with criminal damage and resisting arrest.

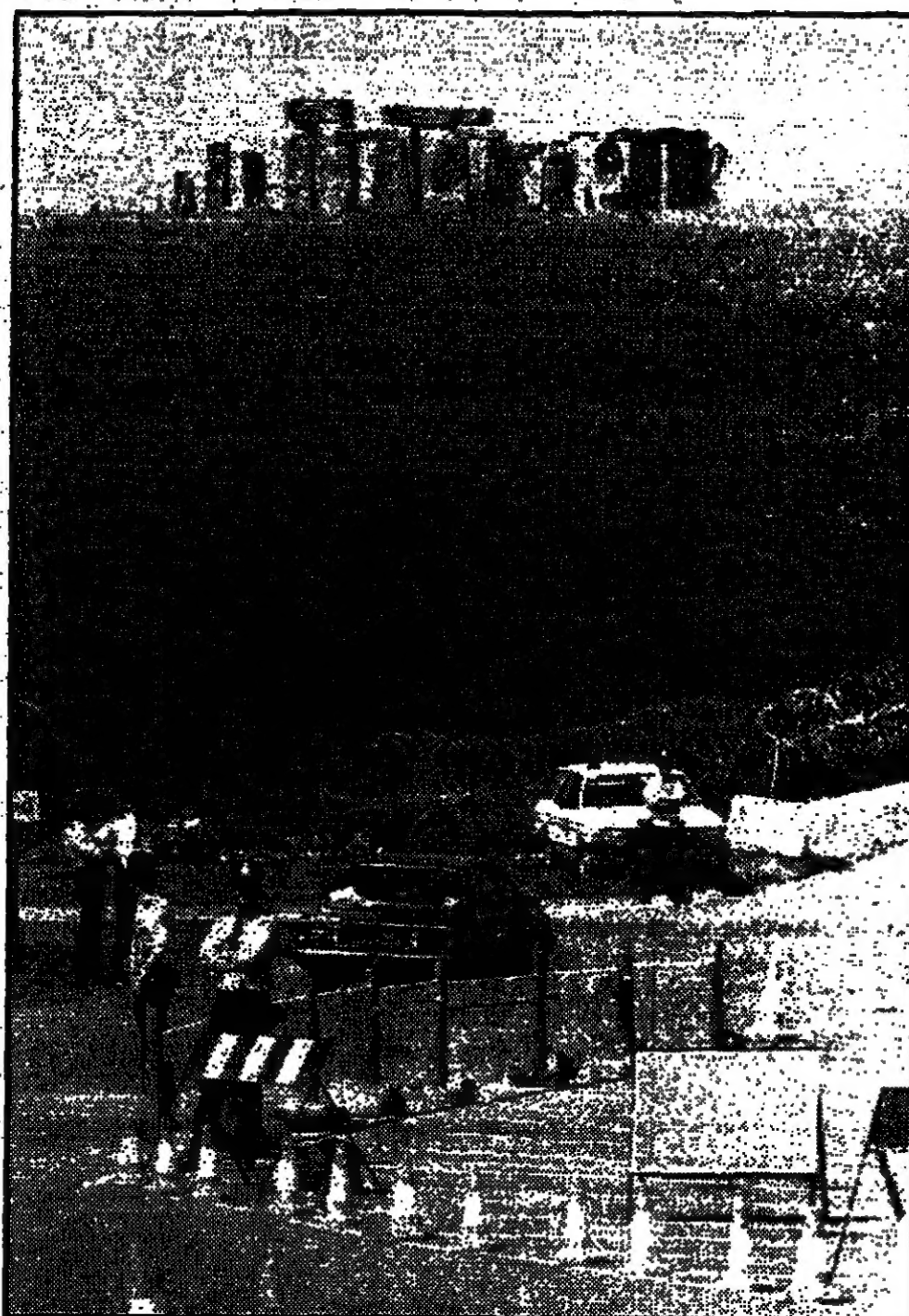
Among the others detained is a Moroccan man charged with robbing from dead bodies. The paucity of arrests, and the fact that they do not include any of the English fans, has rendered almost meaningless the demand for exemplary punishment for the rioters.

Even if they could be identified from television film and other means they would have to be extradited to face trial. The Merseyside squad faces the daunting task of looking for faces known to them in enlargements of photographs and video film frames taken of the UEFA crowd.

The squad will receive assistance from the Special Branch which is understood to have assigned regional officers to the problem, with the initial brief of discovering whether any of the violence is organised as to speak general civil disorder.

The squad which is working to its own police board of inquiry, will also be in contact with police in Brussels, Rome, Pisa and Milan who are searching for the man seen on television holding a pistol.

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Police man a roadblock to stop the "peace convoy" reaching Stonehenge (above) and some of the coaches await removal after the battle. Pictures by Martin Argles



Convoy poised to roll again on Stonehenge festival site

By Martin Wainwright

EFFORTS to establish the 12th annual Stonehenge festival are likely to continue until the midsummer solstice on June 21, despite the almost medieval scenes of violence which swirled the first attempt at the weekend.

Hundreds of police and a ramshackle convoy of brightly-lit buses, decked with flags and carrying young children and every imaginable household chattel, closed in a Wiltshire broad heath field.

There were about two dozen minor injuries but police won't have on the 30-odd vehicles of the "Peace Convoy," the festival vanguard, after a considerable number had tried to run down officers in the field near Cholderton. Windcreens were smashed, coaches rammed and fences

reduced to pulp as the jalousies careered around.

Buildings and a wreckers' truck called the Blue Mule spent yesterday clearing the debris, crunching a burnt-out bus into the back of a heavy-duty truck. Meanwhile, a special court sat in Salisbury police station dealing the first 50 of 530 festival-goers arrested at the scene or in a second struggle closer to Stonehenge.

Five police forces are geared up to spend this month supporting the National Trust and English Heritage in their determination to end the illegal festival once and for all. Police have never been happy about a gathering as large as 30,000, involving trespass and drug abuse, but the objection motivating the trust and English Heritage is the threat to the monument and its surroundings.

The clash of cultures was

vividly portrayed under the hawthorn trees between the fields and the A303, where tourists buses slowed to let their passengers gaze at the scene. A group from the convoy, many brown and surrounded by dogs, shared a patch of grass with Mr Campbell Johnston, farmer and owner of the field, who was waiting for his solicitor to make a pointed statement to the BBC.

Other local residents were being placated by their best policeman, PC Ted Reynolds, an archetypal country bobby who was still wondering aloud: "Why did they have to come and park on my patch without asking me? We'll get over it, we always do."

Mr Brian Shaw, aged 49, who had 200 constables lined up in front of his detached house overlooking the field where the battle began.

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Fowler prepares to defend benefit cuts

By David Hencke and James Naughtie

The first comprehensive review of Britain's social security system for more than 40 years will be presented to the Commons today with a claim from the Government that the planned changes will help the worst-off and simplify a cumbersome and overburdened system. Efforts were being made in Whitehall yesterday to prepare for the coming political row over the package, with officials claiming that the effect of the main proposals will be less severe than has been predicted. But Opposition MPs were ready to make an onslaught after the announcement, which Mrs Thatcher regards as one of the most important of her premiership.

Mr Norman Fowler, the Social Services Secretary, will reveal that the expected savings from the outline proposals — in a three-volume green paper on social security and a volume on housing benefit — will be less than £1 billion a year. He will use this figure to attack the predictions from some Opposition spokesmen that much deeper cuts had been agreed, under Treasury pressure.

A White Paper is expected in the autumn announcing the Government's final decision on the future of the social security system.

Today's green paper will contain a series of options covering the future of pensions, supplementary benefit, benefits for children and young people, unemployment and housing benefit. It follows the reviews set up by Mr Fowler last year.

Only one of the main reviews, the independent inquiry into housing benefit, chaired by Mr Jeremy Rowe, a businessman, is to be published in full. The remaining inquiries, chaired by ministers, will be submitted into a series of proposals and options for the future of the social security system. Legislation, after a consultation period, has been pencilled in for next session, starting in November.

The most controversial proposal being announced today is the phased abolition of the state earnings-related pension scheme for 11 million people. This move, which breaks the all-party consensus established in 1975, will be cushioned by allowing people over the age of 50 to stay in the scheme and by a once-only rise above inflation in the basic pension in November next year.

Consultation is expected on complicated proposals covering

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This week Today

BRUSSELS DISASTER

Like the guns at Singapore, the cameras were facing the wrong way. Peter Fiddick, Media, Page 7. The emotions generated by football teams are now but a celebration of vanished significance. Jeremy Seabrook, Monday Agenda, Page 9.

HOW SAFE IS IT?

The Pill, for and against. Guardian Women examines the arguments. Page 10.

IMPERIAL TWILIGHT

"I really wasn't a blimp in those days, I promise you, even if I am now." James Callaghan talks to Terry Coleman, Page 21.

WAGES COUNCILS

The ultimate protection for those least able to protect themselves. David Steel, Page 9. The foundation stone of social responsibility. Ian Aitken, Page 21.

Tomorrow

WORKING BRIEF

They don't make ballot-rigging conspiracies like they used to. John Torode looks back at the classic union scandals of the 1950s.

HIGH RISE

The conservationists have been quaffing champagne, but the battle is not yet over. Martin Pawley replies to critics.

EDUCATION GUARDIAN

Unless there is a dramatic increase in pupils taking maths and physics at A level, there will not be enough qualified entrants to fill the places that the Government is spending millions to increase.

Wednesday

STRIPED PANTS

Why, asks Society Tomorrow, is racial discrimination such a problem for the legal profession?

NEWS IN BRIEF

Close poll in Greece

GREECE went to the polls yesterday in the most closely fought general election since democracy was restored in 1974. Page 4.

Patrol protest

DUBLIN protested after a British army patrol searched farms and an industrial estate in the Republic. Page 2.

Eureka backed

THE FDP, the junior partner in the West German coalition, backed participation in the French-initiated Eureka space arms project. Page 4. Leader comment, page 11.

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Chinese seek more UK trade



By our Foreign Staff

The Chinese Prime Minister, Mr Zhao Ziyang, arrived in London last night for a six-day visit which will set the seal on improving Sino-British relations after the agreement on Hong Kong.

Mr Zhao, who is with a large ministerial team including the Foreign Minister, Mr Wu Xueqian, will meet the Queen — who is to visit China next year — and industry chiefs, as well as the Prime Minister. He is also to visit West Germany and Holland.

Trade will be a prominent topic as will the 12-year transition period before Hong Kong returns to China. The Peking People's Daily said yesterday that China shares West Europe's concern about the arms race.

Chinese trade officials have said that British business should be more competitive in seeking to boost trade with Peking.

Before leaving Peking, Mr Zhao denied reports that he will retire in September at a special party conference. Zhao seeks high-tech, page 4

Animal Farm gets a union card

By Aileen Balkanyne

A book which teaches children how to picket, and has Clara the horse explaining the benefits of picketing and trade unionism, has been published for children by the Labour Research Department.

The book, entitled *Animal Farm*, begins with the animals on Growmore farm complaining about the dangerous and rusty machinery and rotten food they get from Mr Moneybags, the farmer, for a 12-hour day.

"If we stopped working until things got better, they'd soon change, I can tell you."

We need to be organised, to stop work all together — we need a union of all the farm animals," says Clara.

Arthur, the ram, confesses that he's not as strong as he used to be, and the combine harvester terrifies him. "Crawley, the dog (photo: a hard day's work for a small dog's paw) sneaks off to tell Mr Moneybags of this 'dangerous' talk."

Crawley gets some stale cheese from the farmer for his paws — then becomes converted to the principles of trade unionism when he hurts his paw in the combine harvester.

The conversion takes place during a 'touching scene in them all'.

which Clara (now about to be made into meat pies for causing trouble) bandages Crawley's paw through the iron bars of her stable door.

The animals go on strike, and stop deliveries to the farm by demonstrating and talking to the drivers. "This is called picketing," the book explains.

"Please don't go into the farm," the animals ask politely. "We're on strike until Moneybags gives us decent food and wages and makes the farm a safe place to work."

The human drivers agree immediately. In the end, the farmer and his sons give in with the words: "We can't beat them all."

The Labour Research Department is an independent trade union and labour movement research organisation. A spokesman said yesterday that Union Farm was the first book published in this country which explained trade unionism to children. It was publishing this "charming story of animals who form a union" at a time when the Government was "pushing the ideals of Victorian self-reliance and individual selfishness and aggressiveness for personal gain."

Union Farm, Price £1.95, plus 15p postage, from the Labour Research Department, 73 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8EF.



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DIAL 100 • ASK FOR FREEPHONE MANOR CLINICS

British troops polluted river in border raid, claim Irish

From Paul Johnson in Belfast

The Irish Department of Foreign Affairs yesterday protested to the British government over an incursion into the Republic by an army patrol which carried out searches of farms and an industrial estate.

Dr Garret Fitzgerald, the Irish prime minister, has asked the British government to investigate the incident which led directly yesterday to the water supply to the border town of Dundalk being cut off.

It is claimed that the British army patrol crossed the County Louth border, near Blackhallscross, entered an industrial estate and opened a valve on a 10,000-gallon diesel oil tank.

Local people allege that most of the fuel seeped out into a stream which runs into a river which supplies Dundalk.

Water supplies were cut off for some time yesterday and there are fears that it could be disrupted for some days. A water engineer from Dundalk confirmed last night that the stream had been badly polluted by diesel.

Some politicians in the south are angry because they cannot understand how the troops, who landed on the northern side of the border by helicopter, could unknowingly cross into the Republic.

There were demands for the officer in charge of the patrol

in this sensitive area to face charges of malicious damage to the oil tank.

Past incursions by troops into the Republic have been blamed on simple map-reading errors. An RUC incursion in 1982 is still under investigation.

Details of the incident, which took place on Friday, only emerged yesterday. Local people claim that up to 60 soldiers were involved. The Garda were alerted but by the time they intercepted the patrol the soldiers had searched several farm houses and got into the oil depot.

The Garda told the troops that they were on the wrong side of the border and the soldiers quickly retreated.

It seems it was then discovered that a sluice valve was missing and the seepage of oil could not be halted.

The company which owns the depot is likely to make a claim against the Ministry of Defence and Louth county council may sue for damage to the environment. The British army is investigating the incident.

Police investigating the killing of a 24-year-old Protestant shot dead outside a block of flats in the south of the city.

Mr Roy McAlpine, who was believed to have paramilitary connections, was ambushed by a gunman who fired four shots from close range as he entered the flats in the early hours of Saturday morning.

Political fund 'yes' forecast by union

Mr Dick Pickering, chairman of Britain's third biggest union, the General Municipal and Boilermakers, forecast yesterday that the 875,000 member would give an "overwhelming" vote to keep the union's political fund.

Opening the annual conference in Blackpool, he said that political pollsters "had been predicting that the result would be against continuation of the fund."

"I believe, absolutely, they have got it wrong. I have no doubts or illusions about it — having talked to our membership all over the country, I believe it is going to be an overwhelming 'Yes' for the continuation of the political fund."

Balloting on the fund is to take place between June 14 and 24.

Mr Pickering criticised the Government for forcing unions to carry out polls. Unions were having to spend millions of pounds on ballots and it was costing his union alone £250,000.

The Tories calculated that ordinary trade unionists would not support the continuation of a political fund, but they were already beginning to be proved wrong.

He attacked SDP MPs as "renegades" and "two-faced running dogs" in backing the Tories over the funds.

So far, two leading unions have returned a big "Yes" vote. The print union Sogat 82 voted by three to one in favour of its political fund, and the steel workers, ISG, by nearly nine to one.

Local authority council workers were slipping below the poverty line and would fight to restore their incomes in the next wages round, said David Bassett, the GMBU general secretary.

Even the highest paid council workers had a basic pay of only £39.25, which was below the poverty line of between £35 and £40 set by the Department of Health and Social Security for a family with two children.

Mr Bassett said that if the pay levels agreed by the Clegg Commission were still honoured the basic pay of a council worker would be £10 higher than it is.

Hail damage

Farmers in Essex are to appeal for Common Market help after a freak hailstorm caused damage estimated at more than £3 million on crops and glasshouses at 60 farms last week.

OBITUARY

Star of Robin Hood series

RICHARD GREENE, the actor who played Robin Hood in the television series, died at the weekend in Norfolk, aged 66.

Mr Greene also made more than 40 feature films including *Hound of the Baskervilles* and *Forever Amber*.

Bishop of Lynn

THE BISHOP of Lynn, the Right Rev Aubrey Aitken, died at the weekend in Norwich, aged 73.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Israeli to meet PM

ISRAEL'S foreign minister, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, arrived in Britain for an official visit yesterday, saying that he would be seeking "understanding" over Israel's policy in Lebanon.

The former premier will be meeting the Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, and Mrs Thatcher.

Councils move against apartheid

THE FIRST comprehensive survey commissioned by the United Nations on action against apartheid, published today, reveals that over 120 local councils in Britain have decided on some form of action or policy against apartheid, writes Gareth Pory.

The survey, Local Authority Action against Apartheid, says that the actions range from boycotting South African goods to selling investments in companies operating in Namibia.

Tory MP resigns from law group

MR PETER BRUNOVIC, the Conservative MP for Leicester East, yesterday announced his resignation as chairman of the Law and Order Society, citing work pressures.

The society is still seeking way of prosecuting miners' leader Mr Arthur Scargill for his activities during the coal strike.

Terror Act man freed by police

A MAN, aged 23, was released by Strathclyde police yesterday after being held for 12 hours in Glasgow under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, writes Jim Stead.

Six men and one woman detained at the same time were still being held by police last night.

Iron age village goes on sale

AN IRON age village is for sale near Land's End, Cornwall. The 2,000-year-old hill cluster at Muldra, Kern, an ancient monument which is privately owned, is covered in gorse and brambles. Offers of over £7,500 are being considered, say the agents.

Facelift for Crewe station

CREWE station will be virtually closed for the next seven weeks for a £14.3 million modernisation programme to improve passenger facilities as well as the rail lay-out and signalling facilities at the junction, one of the busiest in Europe.

During this time Stafford will largely take on Crewe's role as the rail network.

Spitfire parts in production

Parts for the second world war Spitfire fighter plane are going back into production after almost 40 years with British Aircraft Tubes making new main-wing spars from the original dies for enthusiasts restoring the last score of remaining aircraft.

10 still in Legion outbreak

Ten people were still in hospital yesterday after a legionnaires' disease outbreak in Staffordshire in which 39 have died.

Claimants caught in web of bureaucracy

By David Hearst

THE day begins with a telephone call to the Department of Health and Social Security. The caller is an advice worker on a north London housing estate, where two thirds of the occupants are on supplementary benefits.

The DSS had agreed to make a single payment so that one of the tenants could get his gas supply reconnected, but the giro cheque had not arrived.

"This is quite an urgent case. He has been without any form of heating or cooking for three weeks. The giro is in the post. Are you getting in touch with the gas board to reconnect him? I think I shall I don't altogether trust you to do it."

It is the first of many such calls that the Blackstock Advice and Community Project will make that day to the DSS, North Thames Gas, the London Electricity Board, and local councils, badgering, threatening, pleading merely trying to "save off the inevitable."

Their clients arrive, clutching their problems in a well crumpled brown envelope containing last year's final notices and an ever tightening knot of debt and penalty before the claimant knows anything.

An 80-year-old woman, half paralysed from a stroke, rents a ground floor flat from a private landlord. The walls are rotten with damp, her flat is heated by a single electric bar and she has a 25-yard walk to the outside lavatory.

Last November the Government increased this woman's weekly pension by

£1.65, removing her eligibility for supplementary benefit.

She should have received a letter advising her that her rent and rates were no longer paid automatically by the DSS and a form that she would have to fill out to reapply for rent relief to which she was entitled as a pensioner.

But the difference between standard housing benefit and certified housing benefit was not one that impressed itself easily on this claimant and many like her.

Unbeknown to her, she soon began to run up a debt of more than £300 in unpaid rent and rates. A health visitor called the advice centre and the woman got the payments to which she was entitled.

In addition to £35.70 less supplementary benefit and the payment of her rent and rates, she found she was entitled to £5.20 a week for her age and type of accommodation, plus £2.10 for heating and other payments, all backdated to November.

The safety net of welfare benefits had just caught this woman's fall, but the determination of a voluntary advice centre funded by the Greater London Council and social services to pull the strings.

Mr Jenny Heath, a counsellor at the centre, does not impute evil motives to the over-worked and often under-trained DSS officials at the other end of the telephone, but she does not think that such cases occur through mere bureaucratic oversight.

"The whole system is feared to making you wait,

to weed out the needy. If you have survived the waiting and don't give up, you become a victim of the bureaucracy. It is a deterrent. If everyone entitled to benefit actually claimed it the system just could not cope, and then we would have some real changes," Ms Heath said.

Even when claimants have established their rights, DSS rules change like shifting sands, or so it seems to those whose only income is governed by the rules. A 65-year-old man lives in one small room with a sink, for which his private landlord charges £30 a week. His life suddenly took a turn for the worse when the Government altered the rates for boarders.

The DSS allowed him a charge for two meals a day, but not for breakfast, which it said was covered by the rent. When the man appealed, saying that he was not getting breakfast, nor was there any way of cooking it, the DSS took away his boarder status and put him on the lower rate given to single householders who do not get meal allowances.

The advice centre then applied for single payments to which the man should have been entitled as a single householder — furniture, cooker, heating and lighting.

The DSS refused, saying that as the property was classed as a bed and breakfast it was the landlord's duty to provide the cooker, and the department, the man's appeal against his single householder status is before a DSS tribunal.

He said: "Most times you phone up, they can't find your papers. I am waiting

for my rent giro to come through. I owe the landlord £30. He has been good about it: he says you are always waiting for a giro to come through. I complained to him about the breakfast he could not give me."

Jenny Heath said: "The DSS rules are always changing but you have to quote the act at them in some cases before they pay up. What really surprises me is that they expect claimants to do that."

Even with a letter from the advice centre in their hand, harrowing scenes take place on Friday at the social security office's interview room.

Patrick Austen, aged 26, has been unemployed and in and out of hospital for three years. "When I came out of hospital my unemployment pay got messed up and I had to wait for a giro to come through. There was nothing to do but live off pulses in the cupboard. I kept on going up, they kept on saying it was being sorted out."

He got a letter from the advice centre, insisting that he was entitled to an emergency payment. He waited two days, at the end of which the supervisor agreed to interview him. By the time it was eventually agreed that he was entitled to an immediate payment the finance section was closed and he had to wait until the next day.

What does Patrick Austen think about the prospect of further cuts in social security spending? He snidely: "I don't really know. Making the system harder for us to claim would just bring an awful lot of misery to an awful lot of people."



Mr Patrick Austen — "no money for five weeks" Picture by Martin Argles

Half MPs unscathed in Labour reselection

By Martin Linton

Labour reached the halfway stage in the process of reselecting its MPs at the weekend, with one MP being defeated at a selection meeting, though there have been a handful of early retirements.

They include Mr Gordon Bagrie, the 60-year-old MP for Sunderland South, who announced that he would not fight the next election. He was succeeded as candidate on Saturday by the former editor of Tribune and leading left-winger, Mr Chris Mullin.

Mr Mullin, who is a close ally of Mr Tony Benn and has edited several of his books, won the nomination with a narrow victory over Mr Albert Booth, the former employment secretary and leftwing MP who was defeated at Barrow and Furness at the last election.

Six Scottish Labour MPs were re-elected at the weekend, each from a short list of one. They were Dr Jeremy Bray at Motherwell South, Mr Allen Adams at Paisley North, Mr Norman Buchanan at Paisley South, Mr Gordon Brown at Doncaster East, Mr Robin Cook at Livingston and Mr Will McKelvey at Kilmarnock.

They bring to 107 the number of reselections which have now been completed out of a total of 209. So far, 92 sitting MPs have been re-elected and 15 have retired or withdrawn.

Only three have withdrawn before the age of 60. Mr Reg Freeson in Brent East, who faced certain defeat by week-end, resigned after a week in the Commons.

Some of the trickier reselection problems have been left to the second half of the process, with difficult contests for a number of sitting MPs.

They include Mr Peter Shore and Mr John Siskin in London, Mrs Robert Short and Mr George Part in the Midlands, Mr George Robertson and Mr Donald Dewar in Scotland, and a number of MPs in the North-west.

Mr Michael McGuire in Macclesfield, Mr John Evans and Mr Gerald Bermingham in St Helens, and Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk at Knowsley North.

David Hearst adds: The Knowsley North constituency party last night asked Mr Kilroy-Silk, Labour's front bench spokesman on home affairs, to name the fellow Macclesfield Labour MP, who is alleged to have attempted to blackmail him into giving up his seat.

Mr Kilroy-Silk told the constituency party last night that he had been approached by a colleague in the Commons with an offer of a reselection deal.

Mr David Kerr, a spokesman for the constituency party, said: "It is in the interests of the party to name names or withdraw the allegations completely. This sort of media coverage does no good to the party at all."

The party said that it would decide on the next candidate for the seat.

Those refused leave to stay will be returned to whatever country they came from. For many of the refugees, this will be a European city used as a staging post on their way to Britain.

In the case of a refugee with a one-way ticket from Sri Lanka, it will be for the officer to decide the destination. A British Airways spokesman said the airline, while recognising its responsibility, would look to immigration authorities for guidance.

In the event of a Tamil wanting a ticket to another European city, rather than Colombo, the authorities would probably advise as to whether he or she might not be welcome. He said: "It will not be left up to a ticket clerk."

BA did not know whether

Kinnock supports the formation of black rights groups within Labour Party

By Martin Linton

The Labour leader, Mr Neil Kinnock, is putting his weight behind a proposal for a black rights group in the Labour Party which has been put forward as an alternative to the women's and gay rights groups.

The idea of a black rights group, which would be open to all members of the party, is suggested in a minority report by four members of the Labour working party on positive discrimination which has been looking at ways of increasing black involvement in the party.

The majority of the working party, which is chaired by Ms Jo Richardson MP, is recommending that Labour should go ahead with the formation of black sections with delegates

at local, regional and national level and some representation on the party's national executive.

But in a letter to the working party last week Mr Kinnock suggested something very close to the minority's compromise formula of a black rights group which would be able to affiliate to the party at local, regional and national level but would not be constitutionally limited to black members.

In his letter Mr Kinnock describes his aim as "a new Labour-affiliated organisation specifically concerned with combating racism and promoting the needs of the ethnic minority communities," which would have a full-time national officer.

But its membership would

not be restricted on the grounds of "skin colour or ethnic origin" and that would avoid any form of discrimination which could raise moral or legal objections.

"We do have good reason to know that in matters of Labour Party constitution, individuals do take recourse to law, so any such constitutional change will ultimately be subject to constitutional and legal assessment," he says.

The working party's recommendations will be discussed first at the Labour Party's organisation committee next week and at the national executive later this month. The NEC will have to submit its own proposals in time to be discussed at the party's annual conference in Bournemouth in September.

The supporters of the black sections are rallying their forces for what they believe could be a narrow vote on the party's executive and have submitted a closely-argued report from the working party which draws on the experience of other political parties, such as the New Zealand Labour Party, which has had Maori sections since its inception, and the Democratic Party, in the United States, which has black caucuses.

They have the support of one large union, the National Union of Public Employees, which has carefully consulted its own membership and come out in favour of black sections at local level, though not on the national executive, on the basis of racial self-definition.

Most, though, put the view that doctors should not necessarily tell parents, that they should be free to do as they think best, without pointing out that the ruling applies only to England and Wales, not Scotland.

Two motions, from Macclesfield and Cheshire, call for a contraceptive service, regardless of age or sex, "appropriate for the social climate of the 1980s."

The BMA debate will take place in the same week as the law lords near the Department of Health's appeal against its earlier defeat.

The ruling was won by Mrs Gillick, of Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, a mother of 10, who has campaigned for the rights of parents to be consulted on sex and under-age children.

One motion calls for "unambiguous" health education in schools on the dangers of cancer of the cervix, because of the increase of the disease among young women due, scientists believe, to early sex.

Another lively debate will be on the Warnock report. The official BMA line that embryo research should continue under strict controls is challenged by a number of motions opposing experiments. Other motions say it should be left to the conscience of the doctor whether he carries out research.

And Mr Don Bell, a local historian, believes that the submarine should not be submerged under a tide of naval memorabilia in far-off Hampshire. All its links are with Birkenhead and this is its natural home," he declared.

Sub may surface after 100-year dive

By Tony Heath

THE first powered underwater vessel may live up to its name later this summer.

The Resurgam—Latin for "I shall rise again"—has been lying on the seabed a few miles off Rhyl, North Wales, since February 6, 1899, after sinking in its maiden voyage.

But plans are afoot to salvage the 30-ton cast iron vessel, which was designed by the Rev George Garrett, an eccentric Manchester clergyman. It was steam-driven and, to judge by contemporary accounts, life for the crew manning it for the voyage to the Royal Navy at Portsmouth was something akin to an underwater Hades.

Shortly after leaving the builders' yard at Birkenhead, Resurgam put into Rhyl for running repairs. It then proceeded under tow but a storm blew up, the hawser snapped, and the crew had to abandon the vessel, leaving it to sink.

The pier spokesman said the pier would be open for business as usual. He added that Mr Kinnock's visit had not been affected by the smoke.

The fire broke out at 11 p.m. on Saturday when the theatre was virtually empty after a performance. Vince Hill and two of the management's managers, Peter Hill and John Hill, were killed by 10 fire engines, 60 firemen and, eventually, the hoses of the local fireboat.

The pier was saved, but £50,000 damage was done to the base of the theatre, mainly in an area not in use. The seating area was smashed.

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Yacht that was strong contender for Admiral's Cup sinks in Solent

By Bob Fisher

The 40ft yacht Indulgence, a strong contender to represent Britain in the Admiral's Cup next month, sank yesterday while undergoing team trials in the Solent.

None of the boat's 10-man crew was injured, but a member of the Selsey lifeboat had to be activated by helicopter to the Royal Navy hospital at Gosport with injuries to his hand.

The Indulgence had been taking part in a 125-mile offshore race, from Cowes on Saturday morning, to select the British team. The boat, owned by Mr Graham Walker, the Jersey-based businessman who was captain of the last British Admiral's Cup team, was leading her class when she struck a rock off Bembridge Ledge.

The skipper, Mr Harold

Cudmore, said that it was not a severe grounding and she was able to tack into deeper water without effort. The crew tried in vain to keep the boat afloat with inflated lifeboats in the cabin. The yacht's recovery yesterday afternoon was hampered by strong spring tides.

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Doctors to debate Gillick ruling

Doctors face 11 motions on the appeal court ruling forbidding advice or treatment on contraception to girls under 16 without parental consent when the British Medical Association's annual meeting takes place in Plymouth at the end of the month.

One motion, from doctors in Bromley, welcomes the ruling obtained by Mrs Victoria Gillick. Another, from Woking and Chertsey, says that doctors should always seek the co-operation of parents and guardians when treating minors.

Most, though, put the view that doctors should not necessarily tell parents, that they should be free to do as they think best, without pointing out that the ruling applies only to England and Wales, not Scotland.

Two motions, from Macclesfield and Cheshire, call for a contraceptive service, regardless of age or sex, "appropriate for the social climate of the 1980s."

The BMA debate will take place in the same week as the law lords near the Department of Health's appeal against its earlier defeat.

The ruling was won by Mrs Gillick, of Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, a mother of 10, who has campaigned for the rights of parents to be consulted on sex and under-age children.

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£3,000 shaft built for bats

A concrete shaft has been built by Devon County Council at a disused quarry to help an endangered species of bat to survive. The quarry in South Devon, is being turned into a waste tip, blocking the entrance to caves in which the bats breed. The shaft will enable them to reach their habitat. The cost of more than £3,000 has been met by the World Wildlife Fund and the Nature Conservancy Council.

He refused to believe that Sri Lankans would arrive in large numbers as to endanger the community economically, socially or politically. The visa requirement was "a particularly insensitive and callous way" of responding to the trouble in their country.

"Our knowledge of that situation indicates that it is one of extreme danger, in which the mere fact of application for a visa is likely to attract unwelcome attention towards the applicant. In these circumstances your assurances that those able to prove their need will be granted refugee status sounds very hollow indeed," he said.

The Home Secretary, Mr Leon Brittan, has already said it is unlikely that the Tamils will be granted refugee status.

From last Thursday all Tamils wishing to come to Britain have had to apply for visas. Their applications could take at least a month.

The British Council of Churches yesterday wrote to the Home Secretary expressing "strong disagreement" with the decision to require Tamils to obtain visas before travelling to Britain.

The Rev Dr Philip Morgan, general secretary, asked Mr Brittan "to withdraw this new rule which creates untenable distinctions between Sri Lan-

سكان الامل

Next school year threatened
with disruption over pay claim

NUT plans joint campaign with Scots teachers

By John Fairhall and Andrew Moncrieff

Leaders of more than 250,000 teachers in Scotland, England and Wales are planning joint action next term, claiming that they are ready to carry their pay campaigns into a new school year.

The have already discussed a mass lobby of parliament in the autumn, which would be the biggest combined show of strength organised by the teaching unions. The government would be confronted by teachers with separate aims but united in opposition to its pay policy.

Leaders of the National Union of Teachers, fighting a separate pay campaign in England and Wales, will discuss combined operations with the Educational Institute of Scotland at its annual meeting at Limerick on Thursday.

Mr Fred Jarvis, NUT general secretary, and his president, Mr Gordon Green, are due to attend the conference, which includes a special general meeting called to discuss the salaries issue.

The EIS, which has just over 40,000 members in schools, has been taking action throughout the year to back its demand for an independent salaries review. Last week alone about 140,000 pupils were affected by strikes involving 7,000 teachers in 700 schools.

A further round of selective strikes will be called next week and plans have been drawn for the remainder of the Scottish term which ends this month.

Teachers south of the border are taking selective strike action and imposing sanctions. Negotiations broke down on May 23, when the unions unanimously rejected a 5 per cent and a proposal of arbitration.

Mr Jarvis confirmed yesterday that there had been informal talks with the Scots about

a link-up between union members next term. A lobby and rally in London was one of the schemes they hoped to organise, but not, at this stage, simultaneously timed strikes.

There will be more inter-union talks at a British Isles and Ireland group meeting in Ulster, on June 15.

Mr John Pollock, general secretary of the EIS, said that the Scottish union had already indicated that it was prepared to switch to London, a rally by up to 5,000 teachers, due to take place in Edinburgh on June 22.

Joint rallies in border towns had also been proposed. Although the unions have separate objectives, Mr Pollock said, they had common broad aims of decent conditions and proper salaries, however they are achieved.

In an attempt to break the deadlock in the 16-week teachers' pay dispute in England and Wales, the Labour Party's education spokesman, Mr Giles Radice, has called together the party's local authority education leaders. The Labour members of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities and the Association of County Councils will meet at the House of Commons on June 12 when the political balance of these two local authority associations will still not be precisely known.

The changes produced by the May local government elections mean that the AMA will continue to have a Labour majority. Although the Conservative balance of these two local authority associations will still not be precisely known, the balance between Labour, Conservative and Alliance will not be clear until the AOC's annual meeting on June 19 when the new leaders will be elected.

Mr Radice admitted yesterday that he did not have a specific peace formula to put to the meeting he has called.

Study doubts if Wall is all Hadrian's

Martin Wainwright reports on the study discovering new details from old stones

ROGER ORAM stood on Highfield Crags dangling a plumb-bob over the rubble core of Hadrian's Wall. As the metal choked against a lump of white boulder he patiently drew the stone's outline on his scaled-down survey chart.

It was about the hundredth stone of the day and Mr Oram, an archaeologist with the National Trust, still had to trace its shape from either side of the Wall. The meticulous analysis of the monument, now in its fourth year, is the most detailed study ever made.

It is astonishing that although the Wall has been so well known for so long no one has ever done anything like this before," said Mr Jim Crow, the director of excavations. "Every archaeologist in the country has walked along here but they've missed all sorts of things, including an entire Romano-British settlement, which we've turned up."

His deputy, Mr Ralph Mills, said that previous excavations tended to take a limited look: "If you dig a tiny trench you only get a tiny story."

The old grey stone has yielded secrets as rubble is sifted. Whole sections of the Wall, for instance, were glistering white in Roman times with lime leached from the mortar.

"It would have been like a neon light up there," said Mr Crow, pointing to striking white stains on a newly-exposed piece of wall. "You can't imagine a better way of telling the barbarians: 'We are here, don't come any closer.'"

If a Pict had failed to see the Wall and bumped into it, he would have got a shock from a section at Sycamore Gap where the Roman mortar has lasted so well that the nuclear waste authority,



STONE SECRETS: The director of excavations, Jim Crow, and his deputy, Ralph Mills, examining a stretch of the wall at Sycamore Gap. Picture by Garry Weaser

Nirex, is studying it as part of preparations for storing radioactive waste underground.

Mr Crow's team of six, supplemented by volunteers from a 70-year-old grammar to teenagers, is also filling in important gaps in the Wall's history. A large rubbish dump has provided the first evidence of activity on the Wall in the last second century AD and a trove of 30 gold coins showed the Wall still standing at its full height of 15 feet in AD 364.

Stonework details recorded by Mr Oram suggest that "Hadrian's" is a misnomer for the Wall where it runs along the Whin Sill crags. Almost all the remaining

structure dates from the rebuilding carried out by the Emperor Septimius Severus in about AD 200.

Other treasured ideas may have to be revised as a result of the survey of land beside the Wall. Pollen from soil cores suggest that the climate was pleasant during much of the Roman occupation.

"The idea of shivering legionaries looking out over desolation is a London-based fallacy, I'm afraid," said Mr Crow.

The excavation, wholly financed by English Heritage, the historic buildings and monuments commission, was launched for environmental rather than archaeological

reasons. The pressure of 150,000 visitors a year on the rocks between Steel Rigg and Housesteads fort was causing serious erosion.

But the rescue work is proving its worth archaeologically, and unearthing of a dramatic new stretch of wall. Removal of collapsed rubble has exposed up to six courses of stone, transforming a meagre barrier into something much more impressive.

"This will be the new picture postcard view," said Mr Mills who is proud that the effect has been achieved without restoration.

Not a stone has been added, in fact the excavation has shifted thousands of tons

of original wall which had collapsed. There has been a wistful talk of selling bits as souvenirs but the probably outcry prevented any serious scheme.

Instead, the stones help repairs elsewhere on the Trust's 1,900-acre estate, lending distinction to ordinary farm walls. A better fate than that of the 30 miles of Wall destroyed in the 1750s to make a military road.

The workmen "beat the stone in pieces," wrote the contemporary traveller, Stukeley. "Every carving inscription, altar, milestone etc, undergoes the same vile havoc from the hands of these wretches."

Overdose risk from drugs that mask problems

Andrew Vetch on the prescriptions for ills that doctors are unable to cure

Mood-changing drugs, often given in dangerous "cocktails" to healthy people for no logical reason, are responsible for nearly two thirds of the overdose cases seen at Britain's leading poisoning treatment centre.

People who poison themselves usually choose drugs prescribed by their GPs, and Dr Laurence Prescott, consultant at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, set out to find what drugs were most common.

The result, published in the British Medical Journal at the weekend, will be seen as an indictment of indiscriminate prescribing by doctors, often in a futile attempt to mask social problems, particularly the misery of unemployment.

He analysed the case histories of 230 people, aged 13 to 83, treated at two months at Edinburgh's regional poisoning treatment centre. Most were women in their twenties, and 104 were men.

Nearly two thirds of patients had taken overdoses of psychotropic (mood-changing) drugs, most of them benzodiazepines (drugs of the same type as Valium and Librium). Half had been given repeat prescriptions, and nearly a third, had been given cocktails of "seemingly illogical combinations."

More than a third of the patients with no psychiatric illness and a normal personality had been given repeat prescriptions. Dr Prescott found, most of the unemployed who had taken overdoses had been given these drugs.

One 28-year-old man with no psychiatric illness had been prescribed a combination of the anti-depressant amitriptyline, lorazepam for anxiety, and two varieties of sleeping pill, temazepam and lorazepam.

Half the patients who were genuinely suffering from depression were being treated with drugs that caused depression as a side-effect.

Self-poisoning has increased dramatically, says Dr Prescott. It is one of the commonest causes of admission to hospital, especially in the past few years.

Most people take overdoses on impulse, he says, because of a crisis in coping with social or personal difficulties. Most have been prescribed psychotropic drugs in the expectation that the burden of their problems will be eased.

Some may be helped. For others, the treatment makes things worse. "Psychotropic drugs may increase suicidal thoughts, cause depression and predispose to self-poisoning," he says. Increased prescribing has gone hand in hand with an increase in overdoses.

Only a minority of patients have psychiatric illness, for which drug treatment is indicated and most are disadvantaged, disappointed, frustrated, or unhappy because of personal and social problems," Dr Prescott says.

"Doctors may think that psychotropic drugs give some comfort and relief of distress which allows these patients to cope more effectively with the problems of life from which there is no other easy escape, but there is no evidence that their regular use benefits those with intractable social problems who repeatedly resort to overdoses."

Dependence on benzodiazepines is a serious problem, and psychotropic drugs may have adverse effects on mood and behaviour which predispose to self-poisoning. They may impair judgment, induce apathy, retardation, and depression; and lower tolerance with irritability and aggressive responses which may be self-destructive. Benzodiazepines and phenothiazines (tranquillisers such as Largactil) may cause severe depression and patients have killed themselves as a result.

Dr Prescott says: "Many patients were given multiple drugs in seemingly illogical combinations." The quantity taken by some patients was "astounding."

In hopes of happy landing

A Bournemouth travel firm yesterday organised a 30-minute plane trip around the Isle of Wight for passengers with a fear of flying. The flight from Hurn airport costs £19 including a cocktail to steady the nerves and a first-time flier's certificate signed by the captain.

Criminal records 'must be revealed'

By Sarah Beesley

Certain types of offenders should have their criminal records disclosed automatically if they apply to work caring for children, the elderly or vulnerable people, says Ms Harriet Harman, Labour's social services spokeswoman.

Ms Harman made her call for new laws to protect the community to a Home Office committee set up in the wake of the murder of four-year-old Marie Payne by Colin Evans. Despite a serious record of sexual offences against children, Evans had obtained baby-sitting work as a volunteer with Berkshire social services.

Ms Harman told the committee that police record checks should be made on those seeking voluntary or unpaid work in the household of child-minders, play group and day nursery staff and people applying to adopt or foster children.

Only those with responsibility for children should be officially supposed to disclose criminal convictions at present. Legislation should cover children, the elderly, the mentally ill and the physically disabled, Ms Harman said, and contacts between such bodies as social services departments and the police should be formalised to end the current "off the record" revelation of criminal records.

Ms Harman wants a statute which lays down which crimes are disclosable for which jobs. She also wants applicants told of the record check.

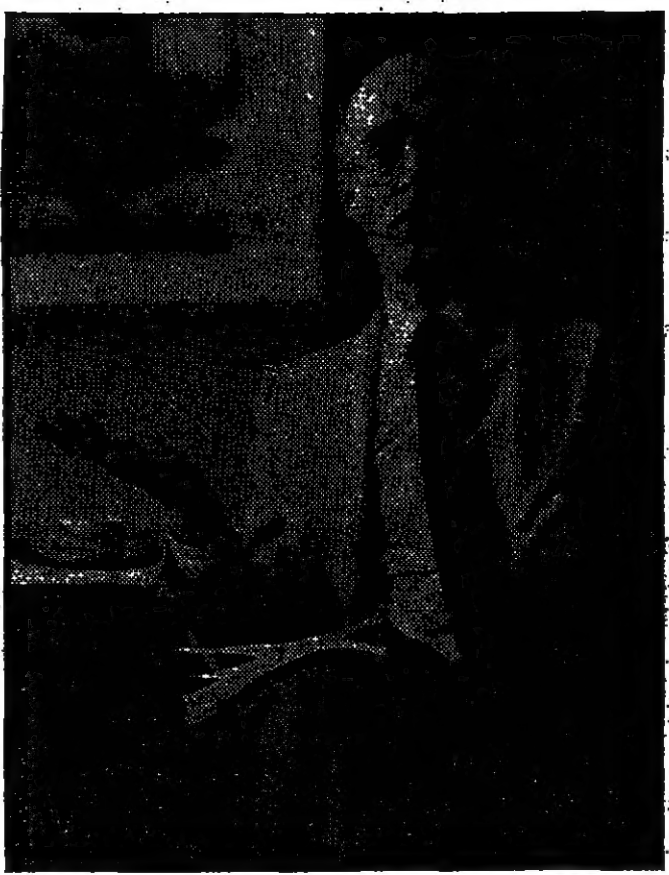
Two fundamental principles should be enshrined in a new law, she told the review. Firstly, children and vulnerable people must be protected and, secondly, the right to privacy must be respected.

Ms Harman is particularly concerned about the possibilities for financial or physical exploitation and abuse in private, profit-making residential homes. She gave one example of fraud in Bedfordshire, where a couple running two old people's homes were dishonestly involving £26,000 of residents' money.

A new law should be brought in as soon as possible. The present situation is a dangerous mess.



Harriet Harman - 'protect the vulnerable'



Mr Timothy Mason - challenged by artists. Picture by Chris Hill

Scottish art collection 'is too dear to keep'

By Jean Stead

THE Scottish Arts Council is planning to dispose of a valuable collection of 2,000 works of contemporary Scottish art because it says it can no longer afford to care for them.

The council has been buying original works, including paintings, sculpture, photographs and craftwork since the 1950s. But now it wants to dispose of the entire collection, in spite of the protests of Scottish artists who have contributed their work.

One reason given by Mr Timothy Mason, the council's director, for the decision to let the collection go is that "it is no longer contemporary."

This is disputed by artists, and members of the council's art committee, who consider that the collection captures a fruitful and vigorous period of Scottish art which should be retained for posterity. The collection has a paper value of £170,000.

But the council has no suitable gallery, and says it can no longer afford to spend on the collection in good condition.

Works are rented out at £15 per year each to individuals and institutions. The Scottish Secretary, Mr George Younger, has written to his official Opponents, demanding that the collection goes. The redundancies are opposed by the white collar union, AETMS, to which 16 members of the staff belong.

To care for the collection efficiently would cost £20,000 a year and additional staff, says Mr Mason.

A secret report by the council's working party recommended disposing of the collection. But details of the report leaked out, and, because of the artists' anger, a decision has been postponed pending consideration by the art committee, which will report back in September.

Mr Mason says that the council does not necessarily want to sell the collection, but to find it a home. The council, he says, intends to go on assisting artists by purchasing works, but hopes that this role will increasingly be taken over by business concerns, hospitals and schools.

Many of the artists helped by the council have since become well established. Steven Campbell can no longer meet the demand for his primitive oil paintings in New York.

Others are Ian Fleming and Kate White Ford, the abstract painter. The works represent the most outstanding school of contemporary Scottish art.

Tax officers given written warning that industrial action can mar their careers

By Richard Norton-Taylor

Tax officials have been warned that their promotion and job prospects could depend on whether they have taken industrial action in disputes over pay and conditions.

The warning comes in a letter sent by Sir Lawrence Aisre, chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue, which has been circulating throughout his 65,000-strong department. It is believed to be the first time that civil servants have been warned in writing about the possibility of their career prospects being blighted by taking part in industrial action.

"A manager in the Revenue

and indeed in the Civil Service as a whole — is selected and appointed to do a job which carries important responsibilities; and these responsibilities include, crucially, service to the public and its continuance, whatever the circumstances, and whatever the problems," Sir Lawrence says.

He makes clear that the message applies to relatively junior officials as well as to more senior civil servants.

He says that there is no absolution on the promotion of those who have taken industrial action and that there is no arrangement requiring the noting of files with information

about any industrial action taken.

"But this does not mean that the taking of industrial action is disregarded in all circumstances when the promotion and posting of staff is under consideration: on the contrary, it is one of a number of factors that will be relevant to decisions of this kind."

This reflects a warning already given by Sir Robert Armstrong, Cabinet Secretary and Head of the Home Civil Service, to the First Division Association, which represents top Whitehall officials.

The traditionally moderate

Inland Revenue Staff Federation, and the Association of Her Majesty's Inspector of Taxes have become increasingly militant as a result of manpower cuts and the Government's pay policy towards the public sector.

But action by Inland Revenue staff is unlikely again to have the kind of impact it did in 1981, when strikes by computer workers had a serious effect on government income and came close to giving civil servants a victory on their pay demands.

Many more tax bills, especially those from large companies, are now paid to the Government directly to Giro accounts or through banks.

Low profile for CND's new head

By Gareth Parry

Mr May Beresford, who was confirmed at the weekend as the new general secretary of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, will adopt a far lower public profile than her predecessor, Mrs Bruce Kent.

The role has been redefined as internal administrative and she will act as co-ordinator between CND's 40 staff, 1,500 affiliated groups, numerous working groups and committees, and the campaign's council of more than 100 elected members.

Ms Beresford, aged 47, a CND vice-chairman and former community worker in Bath, will be paid the same salary as all staff, £7,932 a year. She takes up her post on August 12.

Mr Kent with the chairman, Ms Joan Ruddock, will continue to act as chief spokesman. He has already been appointed a vice-president and will stand for election as a vice-chairman at CND's national conference in Sheffield in November.

Mr Kent told a peace festival of 5,000 people in Glasgow yesterday that the EEC's £80 million food aid to Ethiopia was the cost of four Tornados jets. "You can't separate poverty and disarmament because they are two sides of the same coin," he said.

Low pay unit attacks youth training scheme as source of cheap labour

Sexual harassment, verbal abuse, unpaid overtime, dirty conditions and wages as low as 45p an hour have been uncovered by a team looking into the plight of working teenagers in the Midlands.

A 16-year-old girl machinist complained that female staff were left in no doubt how they could find an extra £10 in their pay packet by an employer who regularly tried to touch her breast.

A 19-year-old clerk typist received £25 for a 49-hour week, and 18-year-old with 11 O-levels earned £32.25 a week while a young roofer was paid 58p for 121 hours overtime.

Other youngsters spoke of spider-infested lavatories, no meal breaks, and getting 10 days' annual holiday after two years' service.

The examples of exploitation and abuse of teenage employees in a region where unemployment is running at 15.3 per cent are contained in a report out today by the West Midlands low pay unit, called Young Workers — the New Pact.

It says the Young Workers' Scheme and the Youth Training Scheme have been used to undermine wages council minimum rates and create a supply of cheap labour.

The unit alleges that concentration on reducing young workers' wages is part of a wider strategy to cut wages generally. The report says: "Now the Government intends to introduce other measures to help employers at the expense of young workers. The most im-

minent and important of these measures is the undermining and abolition of wages councils."

"The likely effect, apart from creating even more hardship for young people, will be a gradual decline in wages, and the probability that wage undercutting will cause further instability and higher unemployment."

John Ardill adds: Five youth organisations, ranging from Liberals to Communists, have jointly rejected the Government's proposals for wages councils. Their joint submission says that ending the councils or taking young people out of their scope — a likely alternative — would fail to create a significant number of new jobs.

Runcie warns on pockets of violence

By Aileen Ballantyne

The scale and persistence of unemployment is bringing aggression and resentment into the hearts and minds of young people, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, said yesterday.

He told the National Council of the YMCA at service in St James's, Piccadilly, London that the desire of young people to belong and to participate was being frustrated, so that their lives seemed to them pointless and hopeless.

He said there were now large pockets of violence and apathy in all of Britain's big cities.

He praised the YMCA for its initiative in setting up 14 government-approved centres for the long term unemployed. There were no short cut answers to unemployment, and even the future of work itself had become a central issue.

Christians have never valued human beings for their productive capacity, or their salary-earning potential, he said. "We believe that in the

last analysis, human beings were created for no other reason but for delight, to love and be loved by God their creator."

He stressed that insufficient action had been taken on the new challenges facing young people — the alcohol and drug problems. This demanded immediate attention.

The YMCA had shown in its report on alcohol that there was still an alarming lack of knowledge about drugs and solvents.

Gas may be next move to halt Super Rat's march

By Sarah Beesley

Hampshire are developing resistance to difenacoum. In the next five or 10 years, Super Rat II will probably have to be tackled with a different sort of rodenticide, or by gassing or trapping, he believes.

But there is no doubt that rats and mice are with us to stay. There are at least 10 million rats in this country, and in densely populated India rats are in a five to one majority. Nobody would mind if these rodents were as lovable

as Ratty or Roland but the Black Rat, which carried the flea that brought bubonic plague to London 320 years ago, still thrives in parts of Birkenhead and London.

In 1965 the total death toll from the plague exceeded 68,000 in seven months. The last recorded plague death in this country was in 1927. There were no short cut answers to unemployment, and even the future of work itself had become a central issue.

Christians have never valued human beings for their productive capacity, or their salary-earning potential, he said. "We believe that in the

airport where it had been feasting on a cargo of day-old chicks. Since bubonic plague is still endemic in South-east Asia, there's a permanent rat alert on incoming flights.

Sometimes, Black Rats evade detection by local authorities because they live on roof tops, while the far more numerous and larger Brown Rats live in sewers. Brown Rats are not very healthy to have around either. They sometimes carry Weil's disease, a form of

jaundice resulting in 25 to 30 cases a year and eight or nine deaths.

Rats are estimated to spoil about 2 million tons of foodstuffs a year and have caused death, fire and flood by chewing through gas and water pipes and power cables. They have a compulsive need to gnaw to keep their fast-growing incisor teeth down. If they are not trimmed they will grow into tusks, resulting in rat lock-jaw.

Liberals say relations with Eastern bloc could be harmed

FDP warns Kohl against Star Wars

From Anna Tomford
in Bonn

The liberal Free Democratic Party, the junior partner in Chancellor Kohl's coalition, has warned the Government against becoming the only European country to join in Star Wars research and said it favoured participation in the French-initiated Eureka technology project.

At a small scale party conference attended by about one quarter of the FDP's national delegates, members called for a prevention of an arms race in space and said that existing defence strategies must be maintained.

Their stopped short of an outright rejection of President Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative, but said in a resolution adopted unanimously: "The German Government must not on account consider participation in SDI alone, but must seek a common West European response." Otherwise Bonn's relations with Eastern Europe could be harmed.

Earlier, the FDP chairman and Economics Minister, Mr Martin Bangemann, had laid down four conditions the FDP were attaching to Germany's possible participation in SDI research. They were: full equality for all participants, a

united European stance, an unrestricted mutual flow of technological information, and no automatic realisation of the military plans after the research phase.

The vote gives strong backing to the Foreign Minister and former FDP chairman, Mr Genscher, who has been lobbying hard to counter the impression by Chancellor Kohl that Bonn had hastily decided in favour of SDI. It is also likely to increase tension within the government coalition over the issue.

Dr Kohl, under pressure from the FDP, has lately watered down his position on SDI, but at the same time left his options open. He has also firmly committed himself to a constructive German role in setting up a European technology community.

The Strategic Defence Initiative has also caused severe tension between Paris and Bonn after President Mitterrand and Dr Kohl failed to agree on a common European position. The French President, who has made clear that France will not take part in SDI research, said bluntly that Bonn and Paris were taking "different roads" on the matter.

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British plan to monitor Eureka

By Patrick Keatley,
Diplomatic Correspondent

BRITAIN has proposed the setting-up of a task force to study the potential size and scope of the European technology agency which President Mitterrand is keen to establish.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, in a letter to the French Foreign Minister, Mr Roland Dumas, has suggested that the setting-up of the task force should take high priority at the coming summit conference of EEC leaders in Milan on June 28 and 29.

Rather than let the summit get bogged down in time-consuming clashes over Star Wars, the proposal for a task force or study group would be a face-saving way of pushing the issue on to the back-burner so that the Milan meeting can get on with more important matters.

The French plan, codenamed Eureka, stands for the European Research Co-ordination Agency, which is seen by President Mitterrand as a kind of civilian alternative to President Reagan's SDI research programme.

But Mrs Thatcher and the Foreign Secretary, who have already given their support to the research phase of SDI, believe that there is nothing incompatible in British participation in both.



NOT FLOATING: Supporters of the pro-Soviet Greek Communist Party, KKE, wave flags and banners at a rally. Picture by Don McPhee

Warning from Karamanlis stirs up voters

From Campbell Page
in Athens

A statement by Greece's elder statesman, Mr Constantine Karamanlis, in support of the conservative opposition, has stirred the Greek public point here as Greeks went to the polls yesterday.

Political observers were divided on the former president's intervention: some said Mr Karamanlis, who founded the main opposition party, New Democracy, had waited too long before speaking out; others believe that by issuing this statement a few hours before the election campaign closed, he had timed it perfectly to influence voters against the ruling Greek Socialist Movement, Pasok.

The statement, formally an appeal to voters to choose wisely, was clearly hostile to Pasok. Mr Karamanlis, who said he had left active politics and did not want to be involved in the election, said he could only repeat previous warnings about the dangers and problems facing the country.

Recalling his remark when he resigned from the presidency in March about coming developments which he could not support, he said: "Since that time I have ascertained that the country could be led into a dangerous domestic and foreign impasse."

Already there is in the nation a feeling of uncertainty and confusion, and the general view is that the elections will greatly influence the future. "We have as a people a rich

but bitter experience of past adventures, and now we do not have the excuse of being misled if we do not make good use of this experience and lead our country into new adventures."

Pasok, commenting on the statement, said Greeks were mature enough to decide their own fate and did not need self-appointed protectors or saviours.

Mr Karamanlis, Conservative Party leader and prime minister before the 1967 colonels' coup, returned home in 1974 after almost 11 years of exile in Paris to restore democracy. After founding with revised Conservative Party, New Democracy, he won two elections, in 1980, during a second term as prime minister, he was elected President.

Mr Karamanlis, aged 78, believes that a strong presidency is essential in Greece to guarantee that competition between parties and parliamentary battles do not overstep sensible limits.

He resigned on March 10 after the Socialist Prime Minister, Mr Andreas Papandreu, withdrew his expected support for a second presidential term. This was followed by a controversy over new presidential elections and a government decision to reduce presidential powers in line with Pasok's belief that Greece should be a parliamentary republic.

In his final campaign speech Mr Papandreu returned to the theme of Greece's independent foreign policy.

US plan to boost farm exports falls flat

From Michael White
in Washington

The Administration's \$2 billion export bonus scheme to win back agricultural markets lost to "unfair" EEC competition is being scaled down and delayed as it runs into practical difficulties at home.

The Agriculture Secretary, Mr John Block, was due to announce the scheme yesterday, but the scheme whereby purchasers of US agriculture products would be offered the incentive of a free commodity "bonus" by June 1.

Instead, his department issued vague guidelines at the weekend designed to assuage US farmers' fears and without specifying which countries and commodities would be targeted in what is billed as a three-year programme.

The hastily conceived plan, which has aroused fury in Brussels, has been received with a surprising lack of en-

thusiasm here too, even by the agricultural interests it was supposed to help. Farmers have been concerned that the practical effect of putting additional US products like grain on the world market will be further to lower the price.

Their Congressmen have disagreed about how to implement the scheme and expressed fears that even a limited agricultural trade war may hit the wrong countries and probably end up benefiting big buyers like the Russians.

In addition the deal concocted as part of the congressional row over the Reagan Budget has offended other departments, notably the State Department and the trade and budget offices.

Friday night's guidelines stressed that the prospective sales to be targeted towards markets where export-subsidised products, notably the

EEC's, are judged to have benefited unfairly, should meet the "additionality" criterion. This means that they should be extra sales rather than displacing existing ones.

They should also be targeted clearly at offending countries—Brazilian poultry and some eastern block exporters—and should be "revenue neutral" in not costing the US Commodity Credit Corporation any more to give away than it would cost to keep the commodity in question in storage.

In Congress some people, like Senator Mark Andrews, have called for a \$2 billion subsidy for US food stockpiles, while others, including Senator Jesse Helms, have warned against flooding the market.

The US is still a net \$14 billion a year exporter of food, but exports have recently been revised downwards for 1985 for the third time.

Sleeping rough in NY city

NEW YORK: Whistling, chanting strikers paraded outside world famous hotels yesterday while managers made beds and disposed of rubbish on the second day of New York's hotel strike.

Guests arriving at such glittering hotels as the Plaza, Waldorf-Astoria and the Pierre had to negotiate their way through crowds of pickets shouting, "go home, no water, no food, no elevator."

The strike began on Saturday when maids, bellboys, cooks, hotwashers, cleaners and barmen walked off the job after Pay talks broke down.

Blowing whistles, hanging placards and chanting "no contract, no work," the strikers kept up a constant barrage of noise outside the hotels during the night.

"We don't want to inconvenience guests and we have urged our people to be respectful. We don't condone any mischief," a spokesman for the strikers' union, the 25,000-strong Hotel and Motel Trades Council, said.

Plaza's managing director, Mr Jeffrey Flowers, said he was making beds along with other managers and about 200 helpers, mostly college students, hired to replace the strikers.

"We're cooking meals, making beds, emptying the garbage. We're coping well. The guests are happy. We've had no complaints," he said.

Two of the 45 hotels affected quickly reached agreement with the union, which has vowed to spread the walkout to 100 more hotels across the city.

Temper flared outside some hotels as workers hired to replace the strikers entered the hotels and lorries arrived to deliver supplies. Three people were arrested outside the Waldorf-Astoria and one outside the Parker Meridian for disorderly conduct.

Pickets shouting "seabs, seabs" sat down in front of the Waldorf-Astoria, delivering supplies to the Wemley Palace. One person was arrested.

New York hotel workers earn an average \$315 a week. The union has turned down the employers' offer of a 4.5 per cent wage rise and is seeking 7 per cent.

Border attack inquiry opened

From Tony Jenkins
in Managua

Relations between Nicaragua and Costa Rica have been strained again after an attack on a Costa Rican Civil Guard patrol which left at least one man dead, four injured, and three missing.

The Costa Rican Government has not yet formally accused the Sandinista army of staging the attack and says it is "investigating the incident." However, the Costa Rican media after interviewing the survivors, claim that Sandinista troops ambushed the 16-member patrol inside Costa Rican territory and kidnapped the three missing men.

In a speech in Managua at the weekend the Nicaraguan President, Mr Daniel Ortega, said: "We reject this accusation." He announced that he had asked the Contadora regional peace group to convene a meeting of a bilateral border commission to examine the evidence.

Mr Ortega said he was "pre-occupied" by the incident and he blamed it on a "campaign of tension" organised by the US.

In an attack on the Reagan Administration he called the US Government "murderers" and "terrorists." However, he repeated earlier calls for bilateral talks between Managua and Washington to be resumed. He revealed that on May 28 the State Department had said: "It neither accepts nor rejects the resumption of the Mamanillo talks broken off by the US in January."

Costa Rica has no army, but the Civil Guard is a heavily

armed paramilitary police force which also doubles as a frontier patrol.

The attack occurred near the San Juan river which divides the two countries on the Atlantic seaboard. The thick jungle in the area provides cover for the US-backed Arde counter-revolutionary force of some 2,000 men. Under the leadership of Mr Eden Pastora Arde has been fighting to overthrow the Sandinistas for the past two years.

Last month Sandinista troops crossed the northern border with Honduras to attack camps in that country, forcing the Honduran army to move the border away from the area. However, in the Costa Rican capital, San Jose, some politicians have already started to blame Arde for the ambush.

In April one of Mr Pastora's senior lieutenants, Mr Harold Martinez, deserted from Arde, warning that the organisation was planning incidents such as that which occurred on Friday.

A Costa Rican peasant union leader, Mr Jose Picado, is reported by the Nicaraguan news agency (ANN) to have received information from his members in San Juan that Arde was responsible. In the past few weeks the Costa Rican police have been patrolling the area to prevent Arde from establishing camps. Mr Picado says the attack was a reprisal.

Observers in San Jose say that the Legislative Assembly there is now likely to debate the continuing use of Costa Rican territory by Nicaraguan counter-revolutionaries.

Garcia to lead Peru

From Mike Reid
in Lima

Peru's national electoral board has officially proclaimed Alan Garcia, of the centre-left Apra Party, as the next President. The announcement ends debate as to whether a run-off election was constitutionally required. Mr Garcia will take office on July 28.

The board's announcement on Saturday followed the much-delayed completion of the official count of the voting in April's general election. The final results showed that Mr Garcia, aged 36, won 45.7 per cent of the vote, more than double the 21.3 per cent of his nearest rival, Mr Alfonso Barrantes, the mayor of Lima,

of the United Left Front. The board ruled that Mr Barrantes's decision not to contest a run-off ballot was constitutionally permissible.

Mr Garcia faces problems of a sagging economy and a Communist guerrilla war. The anti-government war by the Maoist Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) guerrillas has killed over 6,000 people in five years, and left 26 of Peru's 170 provinces under a state of emergency.

Peru's foreign debt is estimated at \$13.5 billion. Mr Garcia has urged Latin American countries to negotiate jointly with Washington and foreign creditors on easing repayment terms.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Paras take key valley

SOVIET paratroopers have been hurried into the battle for Afghanistan's strategic Khamd valley and Soviet armoured forces have seized half the valley after a week of heavy fighting, guerrilla groups reported in Islamabad yesterday.

The groups said that Soviet paratroopers had seized ground ahead of advancing tank columns and captured hilltops overlooking the valley. Forty Soviet helicopters dropped hundreds of paratroopers in one attack. — AP.

Bribe penalty

SIX SENIOR employees at an Odessa technological institute have been jailed for taking bribes totalling more than 60,000 roubles (\$55,000). Izvestia reported yesterday that they had helped a candidate who handed over substantial sums of money. — Reuters.

Spy swap?

SOUTH AFRICAN spies Dieter Gerhardt and his wife Ruth could be exchanged for the Soviet Jewish dissident, Anatoly Shcharmsky, the Johannesburg Sunday Times reported. The newspaper quoted unnamed sources as saying that a top-level spy swap, involving the Gerhardts, Western agents held in Eastern bloc countries and Soviet dissidents was being negotiated. — Reuters.

A Split Second in Eternity

The Ancients called it Cosmic Consciousness

Must man die to release his inner consciousness? Can we experience momentary flights of the soul—that is, become one with the universe and receive an influx of great understanding?

The shackles of the body—its earthly limitations—can be thrown off and man's mind can be attuned to the infinite Wisdom for a flash of a second. During this brief interval man's knowledge, great wisdom, and new vision of our life's mission are had. Some call this great experience a psychic phenomenon but the ancients knew it and taught it as Cosmic Consciousness—the merging of man's mind with the Universal Intelligence.

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Tornado toll reaches 86

From our own Correspondent

The death toll in the chain of tornadoes which swept through the north-eastern United States and Ontario on Friday night rose yesterday to 86, with hundreds more injured and thousands homeless.

For the state of Pennsylvania, where at least 61 of the victims died and a state of emergency was declared, it was the second disaster in less than a month, albeit a natural one, unlike the police fire-bombing in Philadelphia. The weekend's calamity at the other end of the state almost destroyed small towns like Atlantic, Albion, and Wheatland, together with Niles, in neighbouring Ohio, each in a matter of seconds. In one county alone damage costs were estimated at \$14 million.

This is the hurricane season, but what was unusual about this particular violent collision of warm and cold air masses was that it reached unusually far north into Canada, unleashing some of its energy on the town of Barrie, 50 miles north of Toronto. At least 12 people, including several children, died there.

Upstate New York was also hit, but no one was reported



A boy is carried from the ruins of his home in Cherrytree, Pennsylvania

killed. American officials said it was the country's worst outbreak of tornadoes since April, 1964, when 315 people died.

Routine storm warnings were issued late on Friday afternoon, but inevitably people were taken by surprise. Some described the 40-second mayhem as sounding "like a freight train" or "a jet engine." According to one policeman, the Big Beaver shopping mall, at Beaver Falls, 25 miles north of Pittsburgh, "now looks

like Beirut."

Trees were carried half-a-mile through the air and houses destroyed or lifted off their foundations or apparently capricious basis in a swathe up to 200 feet wide along a 300-mile path.

Governor Dick Thornburgh, of Pennsylvania, who yesterday appealed for federal help to restore his devastated western counties, said "It is unimaginable: houses, buildings, trailer parks obliterated."

Tempers flared outside some hotels as workers hired to replace the strikers entered the hotels and lorries arrived to deliver supplies. Three people were arrested outside the Waldorf-Astoria and one outside the Parker Meridian for disorderly conduct.

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Shi'ites storm Lebanon camp

Beirut: Shi'ite Muslim militiamen stormed a Palestinian refugee camp in south Lebanon yesterday. The two sides also clashed in two Beirut refugee camps.

Other fighting between Christian and Muslim militias flared in the Lebanese capital and in the south in the latest round in Lebanon's 10-year-old civil war.

The leaders of the Beirut refugee camps reported widespread disease and famine and appealed for help.

The two-week old Shi'ite-Palestinian war spread to the south when Shi'ite Amal militiamen swept into the Al-Bass refugee camp near Tyre, 40 miles south of Beirut.

Amal took five gunmen from the camp. No casualties were reported in Al-Bass, which has an estimated population of 10,000.

An international Red Cross team yesterday brought 29 wounded from the Bourj al-Barajneh camp in south Beirut. Rescuers said many others remain trapped inside.

Shi'ite Amal militiamen dragged two wounded men from the ambulances, ripping off their bandages to check they had been hurt and were not fighters trying to escape.

One of the Palestinians, Mohammed Sleiman, aged 35, was dragged out twice before the six ambulances reached a hospital in the Druze-held Shweifat district.

"I was lucky," he told reporters. "One of the Amal fighters recognised me. He used to be a friend of mine. He made them let me go."

Mr Sleiman, who was shot in the hand earlier yesterday, said that hundreds of Palestinians have been killed in Bourj al-Barajneh since Amal launched its assault on May 19.

"They're digging pits for mass graves," he said. "They put 20 or 30 bodies in the graves. Things are very bad. There's no water. The children are dying."

Palestinian spokesmen claimed that disease is spreading in the camps, including what is believed to be cholera.

Police said that at least two people were killed and 18 wounded in overnight fighting that strained a ceasefire called by Amal and observed by the Palestinians on Friday. AP.

Shamir firmly against talks with joint Arab delegation

US-Israeli rift widens on Hussein peace plan

From Ian Black in Jerusalem

Differences between Israel and the US over ways to pursue Middle East peace sharpened yesterday after Washington's warm welcome for King Hussein's proposal for direct negotiations between Israel and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

After a weekend of uncertainty, the degree of the divergence between the two countries dawned on the Israeli government yesterday when the Prime Minister, Mr Shimon Peres, received a message from the US Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, detailing exactly what King Hussein had promised in his talks in Washington last week.

The only bright spot for Israel in Mr Shultz's message is the reiteration of traditional US opposition to holding an international Middle East peace conference. Otherwise, it appears to spell the beginning of a significant rift between Washington and Jerusalem.

The Israeli Foreign Minister and Likud leader, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, who arrived in London yesterday, said on departure that the proposed talks with a joint delegation was contrary to the Government's position.

Although the US, like Israel, refuses to deal with the PLO, Washington has made it clear that it would hold talks with members of the Palestine National Council, the PLO's parliament-in-exile.

Mr Shamir said: "The PNC is an integral part of the PLO. Furthermore, this body is the mind and soul of the PLO. We are therefore opposed to their participation and we see it as a departure from the hitherto accepted route for promoting negotiations between Israel and the Arab countries."

Mr Peres told the Israeli Cabinet that King Hussein had told the Americans that he was ready to conduct direct negotiations with Israel this

year on the basis of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, traditionally interpreted as recognising Israel's right to secure borders. The king also repeated his old preference for a settlement leading to a Jordanian-Palestinian federation rather than an independent Palestinian state.

Mr Shultz noted in his message to Mr Peres that King Hussein's declarations went far beyond any public pronouncements made by Arab leaders in the past. Most important, perhaps, the king's position had the approval of the PLO leader, Mr Yasser Arafat, and the organisation's executive committee, he said.

The king also agreed to a meeting between US officials and the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation the Americans have been seeking. The king told the US, however, that this should only be preparatory.

Mr Shamir said he would make this position clear in talks in London, Paris and Copenhagen this week.

Reaction here to the Shultz message was immediate and sharp. The Likud deputy prime minister, Mr David Levy, called for the proposed talks between the US and the joint Arab delegation to be rejected. "If we don't act swiftly and decisively, there may be the most serious consequences," he said.

Mr Peres, the labour leader, speaking with the caution required of a man in the difficult position of head of an unwieldy bipartisan national unity Government, said Israel was pleased with any progress towards peace, but would not countenance contact with the PLO.

Mr Peres has some factors on his side—particularly the suspicion that, despite King Hussein's promise, it will not prove simple to get the PLO to cooperate in a process which does not give it recognition as a full partner in the search for peace.

Tanker war moves north

Bahrain: Iran's air attack at the weekend on a container ship in the north-west Gulf may mark a shift in its tactics in the "tanker war" with Iraqi shipping sources in the region say.

The raid on the 15,000-ton Oriental Importers, Iran's most northerly strike against merchant shipping since the tanker war began early last year, was carried out by F4 Phantom jets newly based at the Iranian port of Bushehr, they said. Most previous Iranian strikes on shipping were about 250 miles to the south-east, midway between Qatar and Iran, and launched from Lavan Island, east of Qatar.

Iran reported fresh Iraqi attacks on its cities yesterday. The national news agency, IRNA, said that the latest Iraqi air incursions included one over Ham, about 130 miles east of Baghdad across the Iran-Iraq border, and another over Orumiyeh, in west Azerbaijan province.

Sources said that some Phantoms had been moved from Lavan to Bushehr to widen the area of Iranian strikes on shipping and to boost defences at Iran's main oil terminal at Kharg Island. Bushehr is about 40 miles south-east of Kharg, which, sources said, came under heavy attack from Iraqi fighters on Thursday night.

Iraq said that facilities at the island were set ablaze. The shipping sources said that Kharg had lacked fighter cover to augment ground-to-air missiles and fixed and mobile 20mm anti-aircraft batteries protecting its oil installations, some of which are underground.

Up to now Iran has relied on a wall of flak to fend off attacks, but this has sometimes been ineffective, because many attacking planes fired missiles when out of the range of anti-aircraft guns, one source said.

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Mr Peres has some factors on his side—particularly the suspicion that, despite King Hussein's promise, it will not prove simple to get the PLO to cooperate in a process which does not give it recognition as a full partner in the search for peace.

But they said that new tactics heightened the risk of another confrontation with Saudi F16 fighters, which patrol the kingdom's coast and in June last year shot down an intruding Iranian F4. — Reuters.



Members of several unions demonstrate in Johannesburg last month after being evicted by police from a building where they had gathered for a May Day meeting

Black workers search for unity

From Patrick Laurence in Johannesburg

REPRESENTATIVES of thousands of black workers meet in Soweto next week-end in an attempt to forge unity between the emerging, and largely black, trade unions.

On the agenda will be a draft constitution for a wider federation of black trade unions. This is unlikely to be formally adopted at the meeting because unions have been invited which were not party to the original unity deliberations and drafting of the constitution or which, for one reason or another, withdrew from them. The Soweto talks are expected to set the scene for greater unity.

The unity unions have, as it were, sacrificed the prospect of speedy fulfilment of a less embracing form of unity for the dream of a far wider coalition.

Unions already committed in principle and whose representatives helped draft the constitution include the Federation of South African Trade Unions (Fosatu), the Council of Unions of South Africa (Cusa), the General Workers' Union and the Food and Canning Workers' Union.

Unions now drawn into the Soweto meeting include the South African Allied Workers' Union (Sawu) (whose

key leaders are among 16 people facing charges of treason) and the General and Allied Workers' Union.

The emergence of black trade unions as a force, first at workplaces then in the broader political arena, has perhaps been the most important development here in the past six years.

In 1978 the Wiehahn commission's first report paved the way for formal recognition of black trade unions. Between 1980 and 1983 the number of registered black unions rose from less than 60 to nearly 470, and unregistered black unions increased from under 170 to more than 270. Their self-assertiveness has grown as rapidly.

At first the ruling National Party hoped that bringing black unions within the framework of industrial law would allow tighter control, but it became apparent that the unions, while generally forced to operate within the constraints of laws designed to curb strikes, were by no means neutered.

The six years since the first Wiehahn report can be divided roughly into two phases. In the first, the major emerging unions eschewed involvement in wider political issues, concentrating instead on building up support by addressing them-

selves to improving wages and working conditions.

In the second phase, however, trade unions clearly and unmistakably took a political stand.

Fosatu-affiliated unions initially adopted the toughest stand against political involvement: refusing to affiliate to the United Democratic Front was the clearest manifestation of its determination to build a genuine workers' movement and to avoid subjecting workers' interests to politicians.

But pressures on unions to take sides, on issues ranging from denial of the parliamentary vote to blacks to detention without trial, were inexorable.

The turning point came last November, when leaders of the Congress of South African Students sought collective backing for a series of community-related, rather than factory floor-based demands.

Both Fosatu and Cusa gave their blessing to a two-day stay-at-home strike—a huge success which crippled large sectors of the economy in South Africa's industrial heartland.

Six months later the death of Fosatu's leader, Mr Andries Ratsela, shortly after his release from detention, again spurred unions into collective action.

Both strikes' significance lay in that they represented a convergence of interests between workers, students and the urban black community at large.

From the Government's perspective, the burgeoning black trade unions represent the grain who, having been allowed out of the bottle, threatens to get out of control.

The one weakness in the black trade union movement is incipient rivalry between the various unions. Hence the moves, now coming to fruition, to achieve unity of purpose. Key unions have been involved in such discussions since 1981.

Early talks about unity were made difficult by the expulsion of the South African Allied Workers' Union, ostensibly because it is not an industry-based union but rarely because of its perceived obstructionist approach. Fosatu and Cusa now have arranged the re-admission to the talks of Sawu.

The unity unions, as they are now known, have set October as a target date for unification. Its achievement will be vital for the black unions' future if they hope to avoid the interminable strife which has partially crippled South Africa's black political movements.

Who's nicked the most villains?

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HALF THE EARTH

THE CASE of the green man with the pistol sums it all up. It was pushing 10 pm on Thursday, some 27 hours after the carnage, when Alastair Burnet, appearing on the verge of winding up the hastily rescheduled TV Eye post-mortem examination, instead presented a dramatic new view of the incessantly rerun riot: the sequence of the man in green rushing towards the pitch, stopping, and firing a hand-gun.

Slowed, frozen, blown up, electronically ringed, the vivid image put a question mark over all that had been said in the long day's agonising. Burnet, firing at the cameras and in effect said so, in his most sombre style.

And that was it. No analysis. No discussion. A coup de theatre. Roll credits. I confess to screening it at the screen; "You can't just do that!" Two minutes later, there was a glimmer of a reason: this same sequence was top-feature in News At Ten. Perhaps TV Eye had been the consolation: all was now to be explained. But it was not. It was now clear from the Granada Reports credit that the discovery had been screened in the North-West several hours earlier, yet no-one had found a way of putting it in the evening. On the contrary, the gunman was consistently labelled a Juventus supporter, though one of the strongest themes to have emerged through the day was the possibility that real fans had been infiltrated by thugs and one of the day's most unsettling pictures had been of a real Liverpool fan being interviewed back home, still wearing his Juventus hat.

But the lack of a coherent view of what actually happened, in Brussels and in the key stadium, was one of the most remarkable features of the television coverage through that long night and day. On the face of it this was where the electronic media should have come into their own: the crucial event was in early-evening, the cameras were in place; the interests were multinational but, like

Peter Fiddick sees the press score over television on the night a tragedy unfolded

Blurred vision in the face of disaster

Front Page splash: press reports from Brussels. Illustration by David Turner

the venue, in urban Europe. If instant communication was ever to prove its power, surely it was now, and in a society switched on to television from 6.15 am to midnight.

In fact, anyone looking back for a picture of what happened in Brussels on Wednesday, May 29, 1985, will probably do better to go back to the next morning's newspapers, national or regional. As the breakfast television brigades were wheeling out their pundits, this was where most of the nation were getting the clearest view of what actually occurred and why.

For what television failed to construct, ironically, was any clear eye-witness account of what actually happened. The cameras could not do it: like

the guns in Singapore they were pointing in the wrong direction, or at any rate not sited or directed to feed the Eurovision network with what turned suddenly into a bottle story. More surprising was the failure of the news teams back home to make the most of what they'd got. It was well into Thursday evening before I saw any attempt to explain in any detail the sequence of charges across the terraces, and by then they had been used and re-used, not always in true chronological order, as mere impressionistic wallpaper to recharge our emotional drive. About a year ago, I recalled, I was also seeing images run and re-run, but that morning it was Zola tangling with Mary, and every

flick of an ankle was subjected to slow-mo scrutiny. Not so in Brussels, just the recurring agony of that poor trapped Italian who looked like Pavlov, and no word of his real name or his fate. Until, briefly, the man with the pistol attracted the technology's attention. On the night, television had a real problem, just as it had in the days when Peter Hain and chums were disrupting rugby matches and a news reporter was sent along to take over from the commentators when play was stopped. Just as it did at Bradford, when the valiant commentator had to change his whole frame of mind and find words when no one knew what would happen next. Let no one think

it is easy. When David Coleman pulled it off at the terrorist siege at the Munich Olympics there was a seasoned journalist in position to call the shots. Barry Davies did not fail, nor did BBC radio's Peter Jones, but the essence of that night was in the studio: that comments of Jimmy Hill, to the effect that it wasn't sports people who covered terrace violence, it was the news media behind them.

The day comes when sports people have to, too, and last Friday's newspapers show the soccer writers' response. They knew what had to be said last Friday's debate went on to illustrate that declining to show what goes on on the terraces, week after

week, helps the sport no better than coming clean. But none of that explains television's performance in the studio: that comments of Jimmy Hill, to the effect that it wasn't sports people who covered terrace violence, it was the news media behind them.

nine am, that one of the Breakfast Time presenters, the glamorous Debbie Greenwood, hadn't actually been shunted aside in favour of the graver Bough and Ross team — she had been in Brussels all the time, as at a Liverpool fan, and was now to be seen interviewed by someone else about her experience.

It was, in a word, a bad day for the electronic village, the message rubbed in by seeing Breakfast Time fall for the notion of having Mr Robert Maxwell on to announce his newspaper's Brussels Disaster Appeal, a play from which the Mirror made most mileage two days in a row. The politicians and chairman went the rounds, with the psychologists in their wake, not that anyone really gave John Williams a chance to delve into his knowledge of the terraces, any more than they tried getting the returning fans to sit down and talk in detail about what they had seen. The tabloids do the vivid one-liner bit better.

By Friday, of course, it was a whole new ball-game, so to speak. Breakfast telly was back to the regular mix. Fleet Street was back to its regular level of hard-selling contentiousness. (6 Soccer Nazis Banned. We Did It. Sun.) Fuller eye-witness accounts emerged, along with the details of wrecked and looted cafes and shops. And with the weekend came a whole new wave of print was coming, while television was taking its regular break from reality.

For some newspapers, there was one other issue: whether the BBC should have shown the non-match, just because UEFA chose to run it. I had no stomach for watching it, but I think both were right. The risk of further violence was horrendous. And for thousands of people, the knowledge that football was being played would have been confirmation that the carnage had ended, and that someone would tell them if it were otherwise. Some old movie had seemed in better taste?

Media File....

THE cast list of Professor Peacock's committee of inquiry into the funding of the BBC has done little to dampen doubts that he himself intends it to provide the rationale for bringing in the ads. The broadcasting fraternity at first glance quite liked the look of it — ex-Guardian editor and BBC man, famous Thames presenter, Oxford philosopher and radio name, and so on — but closer inspection has suggested a more hawkish disposition though for widely differing reasons.

Time will tell. But as the group met for the first time last Thursday another voice was insisting that the government at least has an open

Alastair Hetherington — ex-Guardian editor and BBC man

mind on the advertising issue. Mr Giles Shaw, currently the Home Office's broadcasting minister (I put it like that not to suggest an imminent reshuffle, but they do seem to come and go these days), was addressing the Advertising Association, in tones less gnomish than some such utterances.

"It is generally agreed that the licence fee system is not perfect, and as a government do not dissent from that view," he said. "The licence fee is horrendously expensive to collect and easier to evade than the corporation or the Government would wish. Moreover, at a time of increasing consumer choice, the concept of a licence fee to fund the BBC as the baseline payment for all viewers must come into question. Nevertheless, one important feature of the licence fee system is the fact that it preserves the BBC's constitutional independence from day-to-day interference by governments."

Direct Government funding was ruled out partly for this reason. "But," Shaw added, "on advertising — whatever the Times may say — we have an open mind. This reference to another organ, inter-related into the prepared text, is taken by scholars to indicate a certain ministerial impatience with being told what to think. Perhaps Peacock will take the same stance."

The ex-marketing man from Rowntree's Mackintosh had cooler clues for ITV. Ministers are now studying the report on recasting the Levy, and hope for an early decision. "A disincentive to cost-consciousness" in ITV, was what Giles Shaw called the present set-up, however, observing that this too had a bearing on the BBC's costs.

Whereupon he admonished his Savoy-fed hosts in his sternest tones: "Let me stress that if you wish to see a further period of substantial growth in advertising activity and revenue then costs must be contained and management must take a firm grip on those inflationary pressures which inevitably arise in a situation of over-demand. The advertiser as well as the viewer must get value for his money."

Peter Fiddick
Media Editor

Derek Jameson celebrates with readers of UK Press Gazette Street of 1,000 issues

PRIME MINISTERS sending anniversary greetings to honour Suitable Occasions usually can be relied upon to interrupt the fanfare of trumpets only enough to predict that the future lies ahead.

As Fleet Street's juggernauts shape up to do battle on the altar of computer technology, every headline sounds decidedly different when talking about newspapers and the media. Which perhaps explains why Mrs Thatcher today chose the former ground of journalistic responsibility in the 1,000th issue of the UK Press Gazette, the trade paper of journalism.

"We politicians are offered a rich diet of comment and sometimes too much comment masquerading as news," she says in a special message. "But for that comment to have any effect it must be seen and felt to be fair and reasonable."

"I believe British journalism could profitably look critically at its overall accuracy, balance and fairness to the benefit of our society."

Well, a nod's as good as a wink to a blind horse, as they say. We must be getting it wrong somewhere when Fleet Street turned her into Sadiqua — and now she's complaining that the chariot wheels are squeaking.

Not that ethical considerations are to the fore in the UKPG's splendid souvenir issue, a 150-page glossy supplement edited by a team of editors, Joe Grizzard, legendary Mirror Group executive until his recent retirement. No, it is that elusive nature that occupies our thoughts these days.

highly-acclaimed ex-editor of the London Standard.

Those two decades have seen massive upheavals in the media, but now we are passing through a lull before the storm. The major groups are gearing up for a break through in computerised production, aiming to catch up with their provincial cousins even though the battles ahead will be long and bloody.

The "new" technology is in fact at least 25 years old, but as UKPG says: "It will take even longer, it seems, to convince journalists that computerised journalism is a performance and status; even in 1985 most of us are more familiar with a typewriter than with a visual display unit."

Most groups are planning to move into new plants in London's Dockland, there is talk of two new London evening newspapers. Overshadowing all else is the spectre of Eddie Shah and his plans for a 7-day newspaper with full colour next year.

Summing up the future, Charles Wintour concludes: "His plans are a direct challenge to Fleet Street, but nonetheless they are viewed with some degree of sympathy as well as scepticism by established publishers. If he succeeds the balance of power between management and unions will shift dramatically."

"The next two decades may show even greater changes. The opportunities look more exciting. The horizon looks broader. The communications industry looks poised for further explosive growth."

It all sounds more laudable than Bongo, for which nobody has a good word to say, though Mr Wintour notes: "produced, phenomenal circulation gains 'beyond anything that purely editorial excellence could achieve'."

The Sun will second that. Its acquisition by Rupert Murdoch was the result of a classic management blunder

by the Mirror Group. Murdoch got it for £50,000 down and the rest on the drip — £2,500 a week over six years.

Twenty years ago the Mirror topped five million copies while The Sun was struggling to hold 1.2 million. Now Murdoch's flagship is well ahead of the Mirror and makes more profit in a month than it originally cost.

"In spite of massive circulation shifts, closures and launches, the overall number of daily papers sold hardly changed: 15.5 million in the second half of 1985 and 15.4 in 1965. The qualities fared better than most with the Times up 80 per cent — thanks to a late flurry caused by its push into books, Portfolios — and the Guardian up 74 per cent. The Sundays lost nearly a quarter of their readers, notwithstanding the arrival of the Mail on Sunday.

Who were the men who mattered most? Those new-comers, of course, who changed the old paternalistic order. The Three Ms: Rupert Murdoch, Lord Matthews and latterly Robert Maxwell.

Christopher Ward, another former Daily Express editor, writes that all three are ambitious, self-made men. There the similarity ends and there is little love lost between them.

"Lord Matthews is in it mainly for the money, Robert Maxwell for the power and the prestige, Rupert Murdoch for the fun, the fortune and the professional satisfaction."

Mr Ward shares my view that Lord Matthews is an honest and honourable man, making the point that my own transfer from Matthews to Murdoch "must have been like some medieval torture involving fire and ice."

How perceptive. Actually, Rupert chose a far more sophisticated instrument: the telephone. I found talking to him on a crackling line across the world to be roughly the equivalent of sticking red hot needles in my eyes.

IN AN article on this page recently Patrick Wintour argued that while the National Coal Board has a strategy for dealing with the media during the coal strike, the National Union of Mineworkers did not. His article also expressed concern over a related and vital question: is it inevitable that trade unions in order to win the support of their members and the public for their campaigns must alter or modify their policies and strategies simply to avoid media distortion and abuse?

These are issues which concern all journalists looking for "balanced" news coverage as well as trade unions, whose very existence stands in opposition to those who control the mass media.

Patrick Wintour's complaint about the NUM centred on the Union's relationship (or non-relationship) with media industrial correspondents. He argued that, during the year-long strike, the NUM, through "inaccessibility", surrendered the battleground of public opinion to the Coal Board, and thus, in a sense, has itself partly to blame for the treatment it received.

He overlooks a fact that the NUM knew long before the strike itself began: that those who own, control and manage the means of mass communication were, and remain, monolithically marshalled in total opposition to our fight to protect and strengthen Britain's nationalised coal industry, the jobs within it and the communities that depend on it.

The industrial correspondents, along with broadcasting technicians, are basically our enemies' front-line troops. They are used often and, of course, unfairly as cannon fodder by editors and proprietors who throughout the strike were in regular consultation with Cabinet Ministers and Coal Board chiefs.

When the strike began in March, 1984, the NUM had already spent two years briefing industrial correspondents, supplying them with leaflets, and had prepared for the NUM as well as our own monthly journal, and



Arthur Scargill: arguments put, but not heard

Press Officer Neil Myers replies to criticism of the NUM's media strategy

Mines of misinformation

warning of the Board's pit closure plans and the consequential effects for Britain. However, we discovered a long time ago that no amount of "access" for industrial correspondents from trade union officials stands a chance against similar briefings between respective employers.

When, in the autumn of 1983, the NUM launched its Campaign For Coal, with detailed and varied briefing material, and when, a little later, as part of the Triple Alliance to save jobs in the rail, steel and coal industries, we produced still more pamphlets and leaflets —

hard facts, hard figures, detailed studies — found its way into what really matters: that is the everyday assumptions and terms of reference which, employed constantly by reporters and broadcasters, play such an important part in moulding and hardening public opinion.

One key example of this blockade on information comes from the strike itself. Economist Andrew Glyn prepared for the NUM a study which analysed the costs to

Britain of the NCB's pit closure plans; it revealed dramatically just how the Coal Board, under Government instruction, has mismanaged the coal industry.

The Glyn report was launched to assembled industrial correspondents by NUM President Arthur Scargill at the Labour Party Conference in Blackpool in October, last year, with BBC TV's Newsnight carrying a filmed item dealing with certain aspects of it.

Despite passing mention in sections of the media, the report's detailed revelations were overwhelmingly ignored in subsequent reporting of the dispute. Journalists employed by the "capitalist" press continued without a blink to describe the NUM's fight to save "uneconomic pits" — the very phrase reduced to mince-meat by the Glyn report.

Because the NUM is a federation, made up of independent trade unions which have their own separate arrangements for handling the press, I can only speak for our national office. On the question of "access" I personally would have been deeply grateful had there been available during the days and nights of the strike a few

"outside" journalists sufficiently known and trusted by the NUM who could have helped handle press queries.

Two steps in that direction, one of them mentioned by Patrick Wintour in his article. During the strike, the National Union of Journalists made a wonderful gesture of solidarity with the miners by providing the NUM with a press officer, an NUJ member, for the Durham NUM. Also, during the strike and since the union has had vital help from outside journalists.

Maybe there's hope... but even then changes can't touch the heart of the matter. While it would be dishonest of me to ignore the sympathetic features on aspects of the dispute produced by such good journalists as Patrick Wintour, Arthur Scargill, and Peter Hetherington, as well as others in press and broadcasting, such interventions were like feathers in the wind of a vicious, distortion and untruth reflected daily in headlines, news story introductions, newspaper cartoons and editorials.

The NUM supports and is actively involved with the Campaign For Press and Broadcasting Freedom's attempts to challenge media bias and distortion, and we welcome their booklet, Media Hits The Pits, analysing media coverage of the coal dispute. However, we feel that trade unions must wake up to the fact that there are other ways to their members' hearts, minds and support than through the danger zone of the mass media.

For trade unions, communication also means moving into the territory occupied by people's daily lives: engaging, educating, agitating in the workplace and related communities, taking on responsibility for weaving individual and social human needs into strategies and campaigns to defend jobs, health, safety, good living standards and a chance at happiness.

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The appointment will be initially for one year with the possibility of continuing for a further period. If you would like to know more about this job please ring Alan Billinghurst on 01-871 6028 or Bill McGeehan on 01-871 6027.

Application form from Publicity and Print Section, Town Hall, London SW18 2PU. Tel. 01-871 6027/8. Closes 14 June.

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Further details and application forms from the Personnel Office, Central Library, St. Peter's Square, Manchester M2 5PD. Telephone 061-234 0422, ext. 282 (office hours only). Closing date: 24th May, 1985.

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Further information: Penny Ritchie Calder, Exhibitions Officer, 01-726 8822, Ext. 276.

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Details and application form from: The Secretary, THE GREENWICH YOUNG PEOPLE'S THEATRE, Burrage Road, Plumstead, London SE18 7JZ. Tel 01-855 4811.

Closing date: 24th June, 1985.

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futuremedia

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Application forms obtained from: Glynn Robinson, Personnel, National Union of Students, 461 Holloway Road, London N7. Tel 01-272 3990.

Closing date for receipt of applications is 17th June, 1985.

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Further details may be obtained from: Mrs M. J. Smith, Personnel Officer, Civic Theatre, Ashby Road, Scunthorpe, S. Humberside, Lincs DN1 1AB. Tel: 0533 82211, ext. 228. To whom written applications should be forwarded by 12 noon on Monday, 17th June, 1985.

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Responsible to the Head of English by Radio and Television for the initiation, planning, editorial control and supervision of all English by Television productions and provision and management of the resources required. Wide creative experience of film and television or video production, preferably including educational work; the ability to work independently, build effective production teams and devise appropriate production procedures without in-house support are essential. Experience of teaching English and/or foreign languages and an acquaintance with developments in language teaching desirable. (Ref. 2608/G)

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Churchill Theatre

High Street Bromley Kent BR1 1HA

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The position will be responsible to the Artistic Director.

Applicants should ring Vicky Hemming on 01-438 2411 to arrange an interview.

CREATIVE AND MEDIA CONTINUES ON PAGE 20

A charter giving free rein to the cowboys

David Steel

THE INTRODUCTION of wages councils in 1909 by Winston Churchill represented a significant contribution to the rights of the underprivileged and underpaid. The Liberal Party continues to fight for these people; people neglected by the Conservative Party which still places its economic dogma above the welfare of our citizens; people ignored by a Labour Party still shackled to a union movement which does not have many members among that sector of the community.

Wages councils continue to form the ultimate protection for the 2.76 million people in our society least able to protect themselves. These

workers are primarily in the service industries — retailing, catering and hairdressing — and many are part-timers. Wages councils comprise of equal numbers of employer and worker representatives under an independent chairman. Their function is to set legally enforceable pay and holidays in those sectors of the economy where there is little union representation and collective bargaining. As such, they ensure that those workers in the protected sectors are paid at least £63 per week — hardly an extortionate sum.

Yet it now appears the Government wants to abolish these councils, believing they lead to inflexibility in the labour market and contribute to unemployment.

I believe they are wrong on both counts. In our Opposi-

tion day debate on Thursday, Liberals and Social Democrats will be speaking for the retention of wages councils and the extension of their powers to ensure that the state continues to protect people from exploitation and provides a safety net beyond which people shall not be allowed to drop.

Anyone who believes that the abolition of wages councils will protect small businesses and extend employment is living in cloud-cuckoo-land. Abolition will drive small businesses to the wall by encouraging cowboy operators to pay minimal wages, charge lower prices, encroach on the markets of legitimate businesses, and then move on to exploit another area. The ultimate result will be poorer pay and conditions, fewer businesses, and fewer jobs.

But I would be the last to say that the present system is without its faults. First, I think that there is definitely a case for saying that wages councils may deter some firms from taking on young people by insisting that they are paid the same £63-£72 per week as older employees. It is obvious that a firm will choose the older and more experienced applicant if he has to pay the same minimum wage. This is clearly something that has to be examined. We must find some middle ground between pricing young people out of jobs and paying them the YTS pin-money which is current government policy.

Second, the Wages Inspectorate must be given more resources so that it can police the councils' rulings more effectively. The amount of underpayment they cur-

rently detect (some £30 million a year at the last count) is, I fear, the tip of the iceberg.

Third, more wages councils must be created to cover other fields that desperately need protection, a move backed by the Cambridge University Department of Applied Economics. There are many such people who need protection, such as pharmacists, florists, and assistants in photographic shops. But perhaps the most obvious one is that of contract cleaners, where wages have fallen by 20 per cent since the Fair Wages resolution was abolished in 1982. But this is only one of the difficulties that has afflicted this industry in the last three years; efficiency has fallen as has the standard of services offered. In fact, so had have things

become that both employers and Acas have asked for a wage council to be set up.

But these aren't the only problem areas. Recently I was informed by a Low Pay Unit of a 23-year-old manager of a dry cleaning shop who worked a 39-hour week for £44.56, and that was before deductions. I was also told of a 34-year-old counter assistant at the garden shop who worked 18 hours a week for £29.25. Clearly then, something must be done to protect these people from exploitation.

Of course, the myopic monetarists on the Tory benches will say that wages councils contribute significantly to our dual problems of unemployment and inflation. I do not believe this and I am yet to be given firm enough evidence to

change my mind. A Low Pay unit study run on the Treasury model shows that 8,000 jobs would be created over five years if the councils were abolished — mere quarters of those made unemployed last month alone. And it is not the low paid who are responsible for demand-pull inflation, but those with hefty enough incomes to purchase luxury goods.

Until the time comes when we guarantee everyone a subsistence level of income, we must retain and indeed expand wages councils. Not to do so will leave these least able to protect themselves even more vulnerable and exposed to exploiting employers, while the Government stands aside — unearing and indifferent.

David Steel MP is the leader of the Liberal Party.

FACE TO FAITH

Mark Corner

THERE IS a familiar argument that belief in God, by introducing ideas of a reality beyond this world and a life to come, distracts a believer from commitment to life in this world. Action is not taken to improve the conditions of the underprivileged in society, because it is presumed that they can be compensated for their sufferings in the next life. Religion, on this view, is the opponent of social progress, encouraging a complacent attitude to injustice. Without religion, the argument goes, there would be more commitment to making a heaven on earth rather than waiting for heaven in another world.

On the other hand, there is another view which sees that when religious belief is given up, the form of commitment to this world which results is often distorted. Whether or not God exists, this argument goes, religious feelings and desires certainly do. Human beings have a deep spiritual longing which whether or not it is labelled fantasy is a real characteristic of many people's lives.

Take away the idea of a life to come, and that spiritual longing has to be directed towards something in this world — a cause, a party, a leader. The result is fanaticism, which tries to transform an earthly subject or person into something which can satisfy the expectations of religious devotion. Hitler was real, and God may be a fantasy; but in this case it would obviously be better to believe in the fantasy than the reality.

Of course, it is true that there are many fanatics who believe in God, perhaps most fanatics. It is also true that the sort of argument which circulated in Victorian England, about the threat to social order implied by church leaders questioning belief in everlasting punishment for sinners, has died a welcome death. At the same time, however, our society has a noticeable complacency about religious feeling which it does not have about religious arguments.

Many people are convinced that at the level of intellectual argument, religious beliefs have been effectively refuted. But they do not seem to notice the continuing power and significance of religious emotion. Far from being "refuted," this has simply been transposing itself into other forms of expression, often latching on to and deifying the things of this world.

The numbers in churches have dramatically declined during this century. But the rest has not been the end of religion. Rather, it has been the Nuremberg rally, even the pop concert or the football match. The twentieth century may have exorcised its religious dictator, but only to worship human dictators. Conflict in heaven between God and Lucifer is dismissed as "mythology," but on earth, as war in heaven is parodied in sporting conflicts.

This century may or may not have succeeded in "disproving" God's existence. What is evident is that in so many other fields, the head has outrun the heart. The tragedy is not that this is the first century to reject God, but that it is the first century to reject God without being able to reject religion.

There is a positive case for religious belief which can be constructed out of the release to human imagination and creativity, not to mention practical charity, which a sense of God has, at its best, inspired. But it may be that a negative case for belief is in the movement more pressing.

Suppose Freud was right to say that God was a projected father-figure. Does that mean that we have yet learned to live as orphans? Suppose that Marx was right to say that religion was the opium of the people. He knew, as well as any other in an age hardly advanced in anaesthetics, the value of opium in easing pain. Without belief in God, we may be cleverer but our journey through life may be more hurtful.

Nietzsche's famous image of the madman in the marketplace, crying out, "God is dead. We have killed him!" still haunts our times. For the great 19th century atheist, the end of religion was as much a source of fear as of hope. In an age which daily notices examples of a new barbarism, should we perhaps regard religious faith more as a gift than as an irrelevance? Should we not at least interrupt the sterile academic debates about God occasionally with the question: "It may or may not be true, but can we cope without it?"

Dr Mark Corner is lecturer in religious studies at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne.



"Tighter control will not touch the heart of the problem... the cruelties will emerge in different ways..." Haysel stadium, Wednesday night

The seeds of violence

JEREMY SEABROOK

sport is a victim, not so much of the hooliganism of football, that innocent homely pursuit as of the hooliganism of society itself.

Mrs Thatcher's anger and determination to crack down may well be the displaced sense of guilt for who has been more sedulous than she in her endeavour to rekindle that sense of fingoism and nationalistic aggression that was so evident last Wednesday and that simply has nowhere to go in the real world?

It may be that to certain unsophisticated minds, the distinction between the attack on Argentina and the assault upon the supporters of "enemy" teams is too fine for them to discern: and if this is indeed the case, then whose fault is it? Who has tried to reconstruct the broken sense of belonging of shattered working-class cities and towns that have been robbed of their purpose, in the image of "fantasies of national regeneration" that can find absolutely no place to express themselves in the contemporary world?

Those who, in the wake of the tragedy have begun most vociferous in their phrases about harsher penalties, stamping out, deterring, exemplary sentences, bear heavy responsibility for fostering resentful forms of imperialism dreams about ruling the waves in a context in which more potent imperial-

isms than our own leave no space for such luxuries. Indeed, not only have these feelings been carefully promoted, but their overuse has not been resisted: there has been no attempt to limit the growing xenophobia and racism and in the towns and cities of Britain.

The attacks on Asian families have brought forth no magisterial denunciations. Indeed Mrs Thatcher herself has not dissuaded to exploit such feelings, when she has discreetly linked unemployment with immigrants in Perth in May: "Labour have said they will scrap our immigration laws. Hardly a way to reduce unemployment"; and the proprietary pride in the word "our" makes it the most eloquent in the whole sinister phrase. Leon Brittan's ignominious denial, meanwhile, that the "dead of Tamil refugees are political only reinforces this sense of menacing nationhood.

If members of extreme right-wing organisations were indeed involved in the violence in Brussels, their task can only have been made easier by the rhetoric of the Government. In this way, all the plebeian revulsion, the historic sorrow, the disorientation of £250,000 (that ready recourse to money which cures all ills but poverty) only serve to distance themselves from the reality of the feelings in which they are deeply implicated.

Indeed, this Government has made great efforts to

confiscate and redirect the misplaced sense of belonging in working-class communities which, in an older form, it has been their deepest purpose to destroy. Those who have rejoiced so publicly over the decay of working-class consciousness, and the dragging of working-class collective and solidaristic values — that great spectacle and high moral lesson of the miners' strike — have done so without a moment's thought to what surrogate and distorted solidarities might take their place.

Of course, it would be unfair and absurd to claim that these things began with this Government. The evidence shows them to be of longer date. We are bound to agree with Mrs Thatcher that the causes of violence go deeper than the current intensification of unemployment and deprivation. It is only the exacerbation of violence in international football that has been most marked during the Thatcher years.

What is clear is that the identity of the manufacturing centres of Britain, the function to which they owe their very existence, has been severely eroded in the past few decades. And the passionate feelings which have crystallised around football teams in these places are in large part the most conspicuous popular reaction against the injured sense of place. They represent a symbolic resistance against the disfiguring of the regional and the local,

against the decayed industrial function, whereby each district was identified with the making or production of tangible, necessary things.

Thus, the intense emotions generated by football teams may be seen as a sublimated memory of forfeited identity, a kind of half-conscious celebration of vanished significance; in much the same way that places where important events have occurred long ago become the sites of veneration and pilgrimage. All over Europe, soccer hooliganism has been declared to be "a British disease." It may be that since Britain was the first country to experience the violent, coercive disciplines and rhythms of industrial life, it is we who are witnessing the consequences of an equally abrupt and arbitrary loss of identity through the process inelegantly referred to as "de-industrialisation."

It should not surprise us if these developments are felt by many people, not as a liberation from old disciplines, but as a bewildering and disabling licence, an emptiness.

This is why such frequent calls are heard for a return to older values, to the virtues of the cat, the birch, the rope. When Continental politicians ask, "What has happened to Britain, where is the decency, the self-control?" Mrs Thatcher is at a loss, and is eager to dissociate herself from the "things"; and she is quick to distance herself from

some of the consequences of her own enthusiasms.

It has been declared those changes in the structure of British society which were already well advanced when she came to power — those economic transformations which involve the extinction of much of basic industry. In the process, of course, people also are transformed, and many of those features which Europeans used to admire in us are eliminated — the tolerance, the pliancy, the sense of justice, the reserve and understatement; above all "fair play," playing the game, those expressions once understood over Europe, but now overlaid by the ugly and unfamiliar term of hooliganism.

That football should become one of the major social activities through which these troubling mutations in our lives show themselves is no accident. Football is, after all, a survival of an older, much maligned and discredited working-class culture which — for all its limitations and shortcomings — did correspond to real regional diversities, grounded in the different functions of a national division of labour which made every person in ways that latter developments do not.

Those functions may have been forgotten now by the young in so many of the industrial areas; but they live on, in subterranean ways, in the tenacious local accent, the fierce pride in the often

dingy and unremarkable towns and city areas which to the outsider seem to offer so little but which retain the ineradicable emotional tug of the home-place. Nowhere is the local sensibility more tenacious than in Liverpool, with its record of exemplary football behaviour. Its ironic humour and melancholy stoicism, its resilience through poverty and unemployment, make it one of the most attractive of all our regional differences.

That these things are under pressure all the time — not least from the homogenising influences of that foreign enterprise culture of the USA that Mrs Thatcher is so anxious we should emulate, even though it means the dissolution of our own culture — means that people will cling more tenaciously to anything that offers a promise of continuity and stability; hence the much-commented "tribalism" of football.

Those who have scorned the persistence of class-identity and have sought to represent those who promote it as extremists, as individuals in the grip of archaic sectarian fervours, have failed to understand that even if those forms of belonging can be elided or squeezed out, the need to belong itself cannot be made to vanish. Needs remain, even though the words that indicate them may be rigorously expunged from the political vocabulary. Indeed, the attempt to repress them may mean that they will appear elsewhere, perhaps in a more malign form.

These things have a way of avenging themselves, and this may be what we are witnessing at the moment. Soccer hooliganism may be a rather tormented reassertion of needs that may have found an earlier outlet in a sense of class identity, which, on the whole, has always been very temperate in Britain, with its reasonable labour movement, its readiness to compromise (never more enthusiastically than at its moment of greatest triumph in 1945), its modest claims to a share in the country's riches.

One thing is quite certain. All the talk of restrictions and banning, of surveillance and control, of monitoring the movements of individuals at football matches will not touch the cause, will come nowhere near the root of the real problem. What it means is that these cruelties will emerge in different ways — perhaps even more ghastly than those we have seen already.

All we can think about is containment, even while the wasting energies and rejected abilities, the vigour and enthusiasm of the young are permitted to degenerate into nihilism and despair.

Next time, it "probably" won't be at football matches where violence will erupt. More rigorous policing will ensure that it can be declared "cured" just as the rioting of 1981 was declared cured. But nothing will be done to address the real sickness that lies so close to the surface of the official version of contemporary Britain. That would require a humane and attentive heart than anyone at present responsible for our country seems capable of bringing to it.

Jeremy Seabrook's latest book, *The Poverty of Power*, will be published by Basil Blackwell later this year.

Why the Wets will sink in the pool of opportunism

Marc Henri Glendening

ONE OF THE few good cards the Tory Left still possesses is that they have played with great skill in the perpetuation of the myth that they are the true inheritors of the mantle of traditional Conservatism.

Interpretations of history (true or false) can be a powerful political tool because they can succeed in bestowing a veneer of legitimacy on certain streams of thought, while simultaneously calling into question the authenticity of others. Francis Pym and his followers in Conservative Centre Forward have learnt from Tony Benn's masterful manipulation of history in the cause of the Labour Left

and are now applying the same tactics against Mrs Thatcher's wing of the Party. It is towards a shattering of the Tory myth that the Thatcherites must dedicate themselves as a first step in their fight back within the Party.

It is difficult to summarise the foundations of the "wet" position because the leading protagonists dress up the essence of their approach with flowery and (deliberately) obscure language. They talk of "one nation," "community," and "the politics of consent" (the title of Mr Pym's personal manifesto), concepts which they precise — defining the Tory wet can adopt, or jettison virtually any set of policies with regard to perceived changes in mass opinion, without fear of being charged with hypocrisy and self-contradiction. In practice "pragmatism," another nebulous term much beloved by the Gilmours and Walkers, is nothing more

than a euphemism for electoral opportunism. The Tory Left's slavish devotion to the key ingredients of consensus politics — Keynesian demand management, the welfare state, the mixed economy, and tripartite industrial relations — can be traced back to the new statist climate of opinion heralded in the 1930s and given expression through the social democratic settlement that followed Labour's victory in 1945. The exigencies of winning sufficient votes to enable the Conservative Party to reclaim its position as the "natural party of power" demanded then, as now (they argue), that the Tory leadership should not stray from the centre of the political spectrum.

Crude psychological calculations are one thing, philosophical integrity is another. It has been argued that classical conservatism was characterised by ideas

which have implications for practical policies rather different to those advocated by the Centre Forward — a profound pessimism as regards the capacity of state-imposed reform to produce beneficial consequences.

By having overturned the Tories' post-war commitment to consensus economics with the alternative solutions of monetarism, privatisation and deregulation, Mrs Thatcher has begun the process of returning the Tory Party to its historical and intellectual roots.

There is a second "wet" inspired notion that must be confronted. They argue that unless the party drops its "dogmatic" and "ideological" attachment to market economics in favour of pragmatism it will face electoral disaster. Thatcherites must make it clear that there can be no escape from ideology because all political decisions

serve to move society in one direction or another. On this much right and left can agree. Dogmatic decisions differ from pragmatic decisions not in the fact that they too are made in accordance with subjective interests and values in mind, but in that they are made to conform with an overall and guiding ethical framework. Thatcherism simply has a morally loftier quality than the shallow opportunism of the wets.

The Tory Right must also make it apparent that decisive and overtly ideological use of power can serve to shape a new political reality far more conducive to the long-term electoral interests of Conservatives. The selling of council houses, and the manner in which British Telecom and the National Freight Corporation were privatised, are classic examples of how Tories can simultaneously satisfy prin-

ciples by giving them practical effect and win new constituencies of support for the party. The priority must be to alter irreversibly the parameters of debate in a rightward direction, not to operate within a climate of opinion dictated by the centre left, which a Pym or Walker-led Tory Party would be doomed to do.

Political success will ultimately accrue to the Party which has a correct interpretation of Britain's economic malaise and can therefore shape and implement an appropriate response. By having allowed themselves to be panicked into advocating a return to failed Heathite reduction to reduce unemployment, the wets have exposed their lack of analysis. They failed to grasp that the major cause of unemployment has been the steady growth of the public sector, fuelled by powerful lobby groups, and the resulting

burdens that have been imposed on the wealth-creating private sector.

It is only by an appreciation of the essentially parasitic and self-destructive nature of the mixed economy that the seeds of lasting recovery, based upon a decisive redefining of the boundary between the private and the public sectors, in favour of the former, can be sown. Because of its failure to understand the expansionist dynamics of the state sector, a "wet" led government would be powerless to stop Britain's steady journey towards corporatism and decline.

The Thatcherites, arguably, have the appropriate understanding. Whether they possess the necessary will to do what has to be done, is another question.

Marc Henri Glendening is chairman of the Federation of Conservative Students.



Polly Toynbee

ON A chair inside the front door of the Queen Mary Hostel sat a bag lady, a famous character in Victoria. Round her was tied a plastic raincoat and she looked worn out. Finished. She carried at least eight heavy bags, pulling some, shoving others down the street with her feet. She shuffled along, hearing these burdens with a look of intense anxiety on her face. What does she keep in her bags? Papers, masses of papers, her whole life, an unresolvable law case, a collection that is so indispensable to her that she cannot be without it for a minute of the day without feeling very anxious.

Not long ago she had an accident in the street when a lorry went over her toes. When the ambulance came to take her to hospital they had to cut away the handles of the bags to reach her. Now she is back again, shuffling a little slower, her bags somehow have survived this disaster. She could leave them locked in a room at the hostel, but she can't, she won't, she daren't. She is not alone in her obsession, for I notice some other hostel women carrying about more plastic bags with them than seems quite reasonable.

A woman can fall no further than this rambling old hostel for homeless women in Victoria — and yet these hundred

beds could be filled several times over with homeless women from the streets. Pressure is growing month by month, as more mental hospitals are closed and the deranged, confused and institutionalised end up on the streets. Now the horror is awaiting the effects of the new ruling preventing the young unemployed from getting their rent paid — and they fear a new wave of young destitutes.

The Church Army hostel is run by Sister Theresa Pountney, in her crisp grey uniform with its red Church Army shield badge. She knows every inmate, though some come and go with speed. She knows their stories, their habits, their needs, their foibles.

In the day room rows of women sit, most of them doing nothing, some of them coughing, and smoking and coughing again. Some stare into space, others stare with unseeing eyes at the television, turned on all day. A bright TV cook in a glittering kitchen was explaining the use of lavender and lemon balm in a summer salad to this most depressed group, the ones who scarcely venture out of doors. The high windows have thick glass and none of the windows in the building actually look out. It was built as a boys' orphanage, and its architecture — all painted brick and concrete stairways, dark and hard — reeks of the poor house, retribution and punishment for the undeserving of all kinds.

Miss Thompson was sitting beside her bed, high up in an attic dormitory on the top corridor. She was polishing a pair of brown brogues, her green cardigan and tweeds immaculate, her white hair trim. This was the worst dormitory, with three of its occupants trouble-makers of one kind or another. Would Miss Thompson prefer a cubicle? The cubicles are tiny, poorly windowless slots in the larger dormitories, an extra £2 a week for the marginal privacy. But the sounds are still the same at night — the coughing, the groaning, the

There are many women here who are lost without the men upon whom they made the mistake of depending for everything

Picture by Martin Argles



weeping, sometimes the swearing and the yelling, every noise audible to all.

Miss Thompson said she could not afford a cubicle as she was living on her life savings, not on social security. Sister Pountney tried yet again, in vain, to explain she should spend all her money quickly, enjoyably, instead of all this scripping, saving and starving for she would inevitably end up on social security anyway.

How did a woman like Miss Thompson find herself here? It soon became clear "I am only waiting to repossess my own freehold house in Surrey," she said, looking aloof. "It has been stolen, with

all my possessions, by evil men. They killed my brother. Now I think the new woman in the bed next to me is married to one of them, and she's here to steal my blue bath towel the other day." She has been in the hostel ten years now.

Miss Daphne Hampton used to be a music teacher, and she had the Royal Academy Music certificates to prove it. Now in her seventies, she dresses like a child, a rather fashionable modern child, with a bright pink beret and a Rupert Bear scarf. She carries a teddy bear called Macavish, who wears a blue beret. Before she came here, she used to sleep out, and she is registered

in various places under other names. Sister suspects she is schizophrenic, but she has always refused to see a doctor of any kind.

All kinds of women finish here, just one step up from the pavements. Some have fallen far, others, like Jessie, have never been far. Jessie came here in 1945 — thoroughly institutionalised, unable to imagine any other life. She is like a friendly, polite child. She says she was in a convent before this, and before that a hospital. "It was the bombs, I couldn't bear the bombs." Even now, any loud bang or sudden sound makes her panic, Sister says.

Many women here are more sad than mad: they are the bereaved and abandoned women who have taken to wandering, unable to endure the melancholy of their empty homes. There are the battered refugees from bad marriages. There are many women here who are lost without the men upon whom they made the mistake of depending for everything. Once their men had gone, they found they could not survive alone. Bizarrely, in among all these there are always the short stay visitors, ones brought here for a night or two by the police, found lost on railway and coach stations at night, without the money to make their way home. There

are the tourists who have had their bags and their money stolen — a frightening view of Britain this must give them.

Each day finds many hostel residents, sometimes accompanied by staff, queuing from 10 in the morning to 6 at night at the local DHSS office. Not long ago there was a riot, a fight and a stabbing there. Sister is not surprised. Her own calm is almost broken by waiting and waiting for them to answer the telephone or a letter, or for cheques that never come. Like most social workers, staff spend most of their time struggling with the monstrous DHSS machine, the hours wasted, the rage and

any expended useless, the time frittered away. The vagaries and downright injustices of DHSS procedure are enough to drive the sane mad, and certainly convince some of these already paranoid and anxious women that there is a conspiracy against them.

One elderly woman came panting into Sister's office in a panic. There was a rumour going round the hostel that the Government was stopping all supplementary benefits, was it true? How was she to survive? Anything seemed possible. Sister tried to reassure her that no one had said any such thing. The local DHSS staff must be lying, because we're Church Army. The DHSS office says to itself: "Sister will look after so-and-so and so they don't need one. If we were a bank and breakfast they'd pay sooner, or else the claimants would be put out on the street." I wondered if the DHSS was not rendering even Sister Pountney a little paranoid.

Perhaps having God on her side keeps her going. There is a small dark chapel where services are held twice a day, but few attend. Saving souls seems to have faded into the background. "I do try to make them feel the love of God through me," Sister says. "I want them to sense this isn't just a human being who loves them, but God. But she says, honestly, that she doesn't think many of them notice the religious side of her work."

If God is firmly in his heaven, I have a feeling the night locusts, the devil somewhere inside the DHSS, or possibly (unofficially) among them, who make the decisions to close down geriatric, mental and psycho-geriatric beds, and so many of the services that help keep people going. She turned and went to the day I was there, more on some days, and she hates to do it. She would like to go out and bring in women from the Embankment, but has no room. She fears that in the next months, much worse is to come.

What every girl should know about the Pill, if her GP will tell her

The Pill can have a beneficial effect on some kinds of cancers. The Pill is the possible cause of other kinds of cancers. The Pill liberates its users. The Pill depresses its users. Our medical correspondent, Andrew Veitch, introduces two points of view which, between them, assemble the evidence for and against oral contraception.

IT WAS the scare of 1983 that showed what the majority of GPs who prescribe the Pill really mean when they talk about "properly informed women."

The reports from professors Malcolm Pike and Martin Vessey of a possible association between the Pill and breast and cervical cancer provoked, at best, denial, and at worst downright abuse.

The GPs' attitude was reinforced by some specialists who preferred, it seemed, to demolish the reports rather than add them to the sum of knowledge on a subject of some concern to 3 million women.

The Family Planning Association devoted itself to reassuring women — rather in the way that the Central Electricity Generating Board reassures the people of Cumbria that there is no risk of radioactive poisoning. The FPA placed rather more emphasis on the reassurance than the facts women needed if they were to be reassured.

The Committee on Safety of Medicines, and a handful of researchers and family planning specialists, attempted to put the Pike/Vessey findings into perspective.

They summarised the findings, pointed out that there were confounding factors, and nothing was proven — but the mes-

sage was simple: women who wanted the Pill should be taking the lowest suitable hormone dose, and they should be screened regularly for cervical cancer.

There was nothing new in that advice. The benefits of screening, and the link between high-dose Pills and blood clots had been known for years. The low-dose message has been plucked recently by all the family planning agencies.

But the voice of reason apparently failed to get through. Confused by the facts of the Pike/Vessey reports and the refusal of GPs to accept that anything might be amiss, thousands stopped taking the Pill. The result, a few months later, was a jump in the abortion figures.

Many of those who stopped, it emerged, did so because they realised that they were taking the old high-dose brands. Had their GPs not known of the risks of cardiovascular disease? Had they not told their patients of these risks? Did they know that their patients were using these brands?

Whatever the answer, the women could hardly be said to have been properly informed. It could be argued that it was this lack of information that was responsible for the scare of '83, not the Pike/Vessey findings. If they had been properly informed, they wouldn't have panicked.

Many doctors seem not to have learned from the experience.

The World Health Organisation's report in March supported Vessey's findings: women who use the Pill (probably the high-dose brands) for more than five years run an increased risk of cervical cancer. Preliminary results from Vessey's new project point the same way, yet when we report these findings we are accused of printing scare stories. It could be argued that women would not be scared if their doctors took the time to explain the facts.

Arguing, as Dr John Guillebaud does on this page, that the undoubted protective effects of the Pill against cancer of the ovary and womb counterbalance the possibility of other cancers, is not much comfort to the 30-year-old with a healthy womb who finds she's suffering from cancer of the cervix.

Nor is it much help being told that you run more risk of being killed by a juggernaut on the North Circular. You choose to cross the North Circular in the light of the known effect of an impact of 30 tons of steel on 10 stones of flesh and bone. If there were to be extra risks — least poisoning and heat stroke due to waiting a month for a gap in the traffic — you would wish to evaluate those risks before choosing to attempt a crossing.

It may well be that the findings of an association between

cancer and the Pill prove to be misleading. Smoking may increase the risk, and a bug called human papilloma virus (HPV) found in genital warts, is implicated.

There are two basic steps to cancer: initiation and promotion. Some carcinogens do both. Most do one or the other. Dr David Thomas, US coordinator of the WHO trial, suggests the Pill may act as a promoter in people predisposed to the disease, perhaps genetically, perhaps as a result of exposure to another carcinogen such as HPV.

Whatever the answer, and it may be years in coming, the facts are that a particularly nasty, fast growing form of cervical cancer has appeared in younger women, and more younger women are developing the disease at a time when more younger women are taking the Pill.

Women, surely, have a right to know the possibilities. They cannot exercise their right to choose if they do not have the information upon which to make a choice.

Quite coincidentally, a consultant writing in this week's British Medical Journal makes the point precisely when he quotes Helen Keller: "We cannot freely and wisely choose the right way for ourselves unless we know both good and evil."

Becoming ill sometimes is part of being human

THE Pill is a drug. No drug is risk-free. It is a drug, tolerated if its benefits outweigh its risks, and often the risks themselves are only acceptable in certain cases. All this is true of the Pill. The risks are not to be feared, but they are not to be exaggerated. The risks are far too high for some women, the most important group being smokers of 20 cigarettes or more per day and the age of 35. But now that we know the categories at special risk (which also include diabetes, women with high blood pressure, those who are very overweight and those with abnormal levels of blood fat), it has become clear that the earlier risk estimates do not apply to the generality of young healthy women. The risks are the "safer" women in my diagram (below right).

Moreover the risk estimates from studies like that of the Royal College of General Practitioners are now in general use. Recent data has shown that modern pills which are both balanced and low in content of both the oestrogen and progestogen, are safer — even less likely to cause serious harm than were the older studies. And, interestingly enough, smaller doses also lead to a reduction in the other annoying side-effects which can occur in Pill takers like nausea, headaches and weight gain.

So risks and side-effects can certainly be minimised.

They cannot, however, be entirely removed. They are only tolerable for many young women because of the two balancing processes which do the work of my diagram. On the left hand side there is the high efficacy, high reversibility and high convenience of the method (convenience mainly meaning the fact that nothing has to be done at intervals, and the good systemic effects are many. There are obvious ones like the improvements in symptoms of the menstrual cycle, such as heavy and painful periods, and there are other less obvious like protection against pelvic infection and ovarian cysts. The well-established beneficial effects on cancer of the ovary and of the endometrium (womb-lining) serve to counterbalance the possibility that the rate of other cancers may be increased. The present view of experts is that there is no net increase in the risk of cancer if the overall risk of cancer is not increased by oral contraception.

On the other side of the diagram, the unwanted effects are balanced first by the risks of pregnancy which is so effectively avoided by the method. It is worth remembering that even today in this country the mortality rate for women is about 100,000 per year. This is considerably higher than the annual death rate (1-2/100,000) from Pill taking by young non-smokers. Yet many few women who want a baby are put off by these known medical risks — nor should they be. My point is, how much less likely they are put off by the lesser risks of the Pill: if they are young and healthy and that is the method that best suits their lifestyle. Secondly, at present

there are risks or inconveniences connected with all the alternative methods: without going into too much detail, complications of the IUD method can threaten future fertility, barrier methods are perceived as interfering with the spontaneity of love-making, and sterilisation is far too final for many.

At the bottom of the diagram you will see the statement "All to be viewed in the context of risks of life generally." In my book, *The Pill*, I challenge the reader to identify any activity which is completely safe. How about eating? Additives in supermarket food are many and dubious, and all far less well studied than the Pill. Moreover, in the USA approximately 3,000 people die each year from accidentally inhaling food, usually a piece of steak.

Going for a drive is another obvious example. The annual death rate from car driving in this country is 17,100,000, once again making the figure of 1-2 for young Pill taking non-smokers. As a measure of the truth of this, I would like to bet that most readers of the article will not know personally any family affected by a tragedy linked with the pill — whereas they probably know more than one resulting from road accidents.

In conclusion, I will quote from the EEC Directives which do happen. Becoming ill sometimes is part of being human. Some people are inclined to blame on the Pill every illness or symptom which occurs in a past or present user. They need reminding of the logical implication of that, which is that someone who has never taken the Pill would never get ill at all!

You may say it is all very well for him to write positively about the Pill. He is a man and does not have to take it. I accept that point. I am really sorry I cannot write a consumer's guide. But I do believe myself to be a fully informed and understanding prescriber. If I were a young woman without risk factors and wanting an effective non-interference related method, despite knowing more than most about its bad systemic effects I can honestly say I would feel happy, on balance, to take the Pill. The important thing is you have a choice. The Pill is for everyone, but it is nothing less than a godsend for many.

John Guillebaud

John Guillebaud is author of *The Pill, A Handbook for Users*, published by Oxford University Press at £2.25, and medical director of the Margaret Pyke Centre for Family Planning, London.

One of the best kept secrets is the suicide rate

"A RISK that a properly informed woman would be happy to take," was the reassuring conclusion of the first major British report on the Pill published in 1974 by the Royal College of General Practitioners. GPs were following up 23,000 women who had chosen the Pill and 23,000 who had not. I could not wait to get the full report and read the good news for myself. As chairman of the Patients' Association I was receiving many queries from women who fell ill on the Pill but whose doctors were telling them: "It's safer than crossing the road."

I took the report to women's

health groups and we went through the tables together. I never found a woman who wanted to go on taking the Pill once she had read it, and I have been an avid collector of research papers on the Pill ever since.

It wasn't just the 38 per cent higher mortality rate, in the Pill takers, who had started out healthier, than the controls. I was concerned at the sheer number of extra illnesses oral contraceptive users had: more allergies (hay fever and asthma), epilepsy, parasitic infections, and virus infections (flu and chicken pox) which showed their immunity was reduced. Other research showed poorer nutritional status — lower levels of some vitamins and minerals like riboflavin, folic acid and zinc. A combination of poorer immunity and nutrition seemed particularly worrying for women in the Third World, or malnourished women in Britain, yet the public health implications have never been adequately discussed, perhaps because the authors believed "the population explosion had begun to replace the hydrogen bomb as the greatest danger to mankind."

After many discussions with doctors about the gap between what the latest research shows and what women are told, I am conscious of their continuous pressure that women should not be "frightened off" the Pill. Better that they should not know of the five studies which show an increase in breast cancer in those who started taking the Pill young and the two studies which show a higher cervical cancer risk even when women with the same number of sexual partners are compared.

Yet the "good news" research which shows a

decrease in ovarian cancer risk is widely and quickly publicised. Women are still being told that the Pill reduces the risk of benign breast disease, but not that this "benefit" only accompanies high progestogen doses, which bring more serious arterial disease. The increased risk of heart attacks and some strokes continues even after women give up the Pill, but the benign breast disease advantage does not.

One of the best kept secrets of the Pill is the higher suicide and attempted-suicide rates in those who take it — reported in four studies. Depression is the commonest reason women give for stopping the Pill, yet many doctors assert this is something women imagine and is not a "real" adverse effect. In spite of a double blind randomised trial which showed an 18 per cent increase in depression in women who took the Pill for only six weeks.

I am not a supporter of Victoria Gillick, but any doctor who puts my 15-year-old daughter on the Pill will find an irate mamma at the surgery door. All the long term research on the Pill has been done on adult women — there has been none on those who started taking it in their teens. If depression is increased in mature women, what about vulnerable adolescents? Has the Pill played a part in the increase in hospital overdoses admissions in young girls? What effects do nutritional changes have on immature bodies? The drug dose is comparatively higher in those who may not yet be fully grown, and in any case blood levels at the same dose vary by as much as 10 times in different women, so a "low dose" pill for others may be a high dose for my daughter. Fertility data on adults (except those who are underweight) is reassuring —

most women are able to conceive when they stop the Pill, even if there is a delay. But there have been no proper fertility studies on those who started the Pill in their teens.

A WHO report in 1975 strongly discouraged the use of hormonal contraceptives for young adolescents because of risks to future fertility, yet British doctors seem unaware of it.

At medical conferences nowadays I hear an alarm that the studies showing more breast cancer in young women who took the Pill before they had a child may presage a major epidemic when this group reaches middle age. I do not see why doctors should impose such risks on my under-age daughter without my knowledge.

"These girls will get themselves pregnant," said one GP. Not without male assistance they don't. I am not against doctors giving contraceptive advice, but our best chance of avoiding unwanted teenage pregnancies is to expect responsible behaviour from both sexes. Suggest the girl brings her boyfriend to the surgery (she may get the message that a boy who uses a sheath not only helps to protect his own skin from pregnancy, but also from cervical cancer, venereal disease and infertility. Alas, GPs are paid to provide the Pill but not to teach the sheath, which they regarded as beneath their dignity.

*Oral Contraceptives and Health (Pitman Medical, 1974, £4.95).

Jean Robinson

NOT long ago, Mrs X of Uxbridge gave up work to care for her mother, who was suffering from senile dementia. Mrs X applied for Invalid Care Allowance, £20.45 a week to help with the cost of her mother moving in and being looked after. Why not? Her mother had an Attendance Allowance, and people looking after people on Attendance Allowance can claim Invalid Care Allowance.

Sixteen-year-olds can, students, men, husbands with working wives, anyone who looks after an invalid 35 hours a week can claim, but DESS, always on the lookout for spongers, said No to Mrs X. They don't pay ICA to married or cohabiting women, like her, because they're not part of the "working population" and would only be hanging around at home anyway.

"Remember," says the application form, "women who are married or living with someone as if they are

Vanity Fair

married, cannot get ICA." So Mrs X, being married with two children, aged 6 and 2, looking after her mother 120 hours a week, having no holidays, no swimming pools or school events, and no meals all together because of poor grandma's table manners, wasn't eligible.

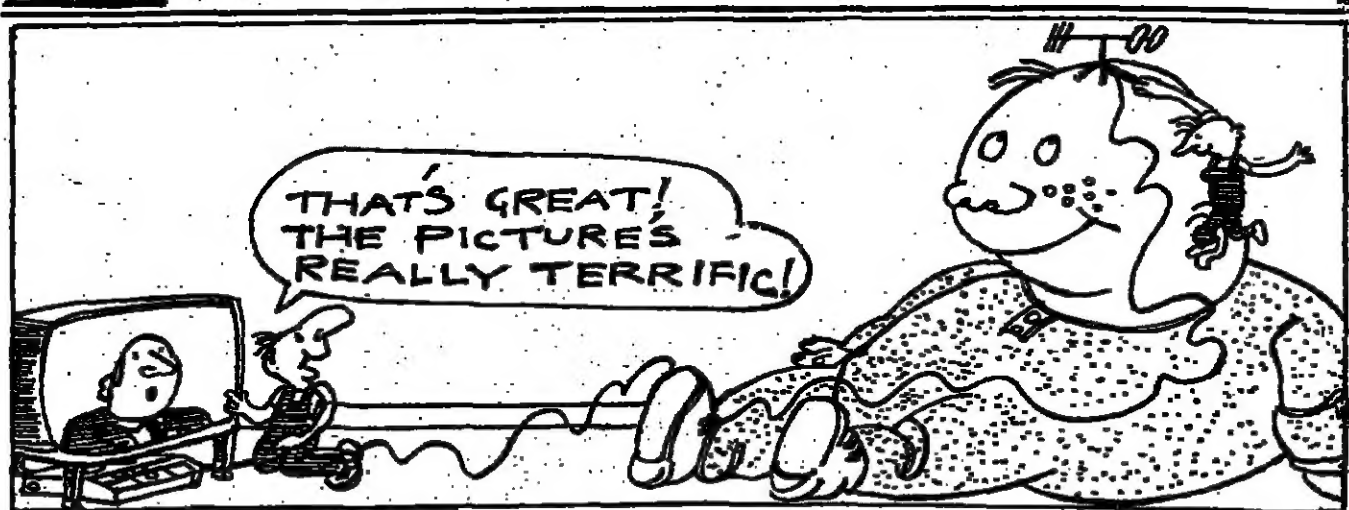
What's more, Mrs X's mother wasn't allowed Mobility Allowance either. She was over 65 and so not entitled to it anymore. DESS knows quite well that once past 65, people no longer wish to go out and become voluntarily immobile.

DESS's stinginess rattled Mrs X. She fought back. She was part of the "working population" and had a job that was still waiting for her. She also knew that nowdays a woman's place is

wherever she wants it to be, and EEC agreed with her. DESS had to watch its step here. The whole thing reeked of sexism and EEC won't have sexual discrimination in the benefits covered by its Directives. Luckily, EEC Directives only apply to "Statutory Schemes which provide protection against the risk of invalidity." That was a clincher for DESS, because according to them, if an invalid applies for benefit (AA) it is a statutory scheme which is providing protection, but if a Career applies for benefits (ICA), then it isn't and doesn't. Protection depends on who asks for the money. As with lollipops.

If a child asks for money for a lollipop, the money will get it. A lollipop. If its mother asks for money for the child's

BABY



POSY'S many enthusiastic fans will want to know that she is taking a sabbatical from her regular spot on this page to work on a book. She will return at the end of the year.

Michele Hanson

Eureka's role in bridging technology gap

Whether or not one views the American Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI or "Star Wars") as pie in the ether, those who warned of its divisive effect once the US began to press it have been vindicated three times over. It was only to be expected that the Russians would see another chance to try to drive a wedge between Washington and its European allies, regardless of their recent failure (just) to achieve this aim via the Euromissile controversy. From their point of view the wedge strategy remains as sound and as attractive as ever: it is only a question of continuing to look for the right wedge. But since we have already gone into the general implications of the SDI here, we may now focus our attention on the effect of the idea within western Europe.

The American attempt at a hard sell of what Sir Geoffrey Howe so memorably described as a "Magi-not line of the 21st century" has already provoked much more disarray than the predictable rift down the middle of the Atlantic. After all, Star Wars as currently understood might provide America with a shield but not western Europe, which geography has inconveniently placed at relatively point-blank range from Soviet-controlled territory. So the only conceivable benefit for us lies in the areas of technological spin-off and lucrative marginal contracts (always assuming that American rather than our own capital is to finance our participation, which at the time of writing is far from clear). One or two of the smaller Nato members have seen this point and turned their backs on the scheme as containing nothing for them.

Not only therefore is there a difference of perception between America and Europe in Nato; we now see there is also a division among the European members, most notably between Britain and West Germany on the one hand and France on the other. What is more, there is a third layer of division within the British and West German governments (but none at all in the French, who are against) about the wisdom or otherwise of having anything to do with Star Wars. There may even be a fourth level of division within the mind of one crucial figure in all this, the West German Chancellor, Dr Kohl, who was initially very cautious, then went overboard for it and most recently began to acknowledge there were two sides to the argument. At the moment he seems to accept both, while his Foreign Minister, Mr Genscher, makes no secret of his opposition. In Britain, Mrs Thatcher's initial, technologically orientated enthusiasm was offset by Sir Geoffrey Howe's admirable strategic and diplomatic scepticism. London's final posture is likely to depend on the American answer to the question of who is to pay for research.

President Mitterrand, meanwhile, has come up with Eureka, and as yet an undefined plan for a joint western European hi-tech leap forward. Eureka is in no sense a strategic alternative to European participation in the SDI, but it is a political alternative for keeping and developing western European talent, ideas, capital and capacity, which might prevent these precious commodities from being attracted or bribed across the Atlantic. At present the British and the Germans seem to wish to back both horses and there is talk in London and Bonn of eventually linking the two; but, as the French clearly see, the technology gap between western Europe and the US would imply the subordination, if not the complete absorption, of Eureka, which would turn the hi-tech gap into an unbridgeable chasm. This is precisely the opposite of what Mr Mitterrand has in mind. The French President should be given the chance to think his scheme through and to present it at the Community summit at the end of this month before any western European government commits itself to the jam-tomorrow lure of Star Wars. Europe has the talent and the wealth to close the gap but needs to develop the will, something only political convergence will enable it to do. It would be tragic if Star Wars divided us even more.

Catch 22 in NCB review stance

The dispute between the National Coal Board and the pit deputies' union Nacods is fast reaching Punch and Judy proportions. Mr Ken Sampey, Nacods' president, accuses Mr Ian MacGregor of failing to honour the agreement between the union and the board negotiated last October. Under that deal, all future pit closures should go to independent arbitration — once the machinery was agreed. At last week's meeting, Mr MacGregor insisted that he was keeping to the terms of the supposedly sacrosanct agreement. "Oh, no you're not," cried Mr Sampey. "Oh, yes we are," replied Mr MacGregor and assorted board members. After a certain amount of verbal slapstick, the union leadership announced that it would be calling for a continuation of the current overtime ban when the Nacods executive meets today.

In public, the NCB's position is sweetness and light. But as soon as the miners' strike ended, the board warned that some pits would have to be closed urgently on safety and similar grounds. No question of these emergency closures going through any new procedure — the small print of which is still to be agreed. Sorry chaps, but that is the price you pay if you walk off the job for a year, leaving faces to collapse and tunnels to flood. Meanwhile, the board will go ahead with its longer-term, area by area, review of closure plans (Arthur Scargill's home pit is to be run down and 5,000 jobs are to go in Yorkshire alone). Of course, this second stage of planned, economic closures will go to the review body — but only if it is operational in time. And that depends on negotiations with the unions which the board has suspended in retaliation for the Nacods overtime ban which was, in turn, imposed as a protest against the resumption of unilateral closures. Joseph Heller, author of *Catch 22*, could hardly have written a more bleakly humorous script.

Contrast this with the thought that, in private, the more sophisticated hawks in the Cabinet had their own measure of success or failure in the coal strike. That ran something like this: never mind the terms, unconditional or otherwise, under which the miners eventually return to work; don't lose your cool if Arthur Scargill resolutely refuses to sign any humiliating agreement and elects, instead, to march his members back. What matters is whether the coal board feels confident enough to have a bash at the pits it wants to close without too much lip service to the NUM, to Nacods or to some new review machinery, conceded in a moment of weakness.

Last March, in the aftermath of the strike, Mr Ian MacGregor wrote to all miners saying that every effort would be made to restore harmony in the industry. Elsewhere he was quoted as saying that miners were discovering the price of "insubordination and insurrection, and boy are we going to make it stick." We then asked the real Mr MacGregor to stand up. Sadly it appears that the real Mr MacGregor is the man with the hit list and not the man determined, in the aftermath of an undoubted victory, to restore harmony and negotiate a realistic plan for coal.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

How China bleeds Tibet

Sir, — Mary-Louise O'Callaghan's interesting article on Tibet (May 24) calls for one comment which reinforces her thesis. She quotes the Chinese government's figure of \$3 billion of subsidies to the Tibetan economy from Peking between 1981 and 1983. It all depends on how you do your accounting. If the cost of keeping a very large army in Tibet, of building airfields and military roads, of maintaining garrisons in the barren northern part of Tibet as dumps for China's layabouts, of subsidising the considerable and rapidly increasing number of unhappy Chinese colonists in Tibetan towns (the population of Lhasa is already two-thirds Chinese), of erecting small industries primarily for the employment of these colonists, are all regarded as expenditure for "Tibet" rather than as expenditure on China's own interests, then certainly China's venture in Tibet has been extremely expensive for her.

But practically none of this expenditure has been for the benefit of Tibetans. For them the balance has been sharply the other way. The treasures accumulated by them over centuries in their monasteries or homes were removed to China before or during the cultural revolution. Throughout the 1960s and 1970s half their agricultural production was siphoned off as taxes in kind, and now their standard of living is much below what it was before the Chinese seized their country in 1951. — Yours faithfully, (Sir) Aileen Rumbold, (President, Tibet Society), West Clendon, Surrey.

Miscellany

Sir, — You state (May 31) that the victims (of the Bristol football disaster) included one Liverpool fan, Mr Patrick Radcliffe. "As a friend of Mr Radcliffe who knew him before he went to Brussels in 1980, I wish to correct any misapprehension that may have arisen."

He was not a Liverpool fan. I doubt if he had ever attended an English football League match in his life. He had lived in Brussels for the last five years, and I believe, had been reluctantly persuaded to go to the match.

He would have had no part in any violence, and it would only add to the distress of his widow were the contrary impression to gain ground. — Yours faithfully, Laurence Jay, Carlisle, Cumbria.

Sir, — We deplore the fact that Brian McAllister, whose work is generally so admirable, has produced a cartoon with racist overtones about an impending Asian invasion (May 20). The fact that this front page cartoon appeared on the very day that a Guardian leader warned of the "artificial swamping" scare being whipped up by press and Government says little for the paper's consistency. — Yours sincerely, Nancy Murray, London E8.

Sir, — You state (May 22) that state at Portsmouth Naval Base had negotiated a "no-disruption pact" as part of an attempt to preserve civilian jobs at the base. This is untrue: no non-industrial union at Portsmouth Naval Base has signed either a "no strike" or "no disruption" agreement. — Yours faithfully, Jenny Thurston, Assistant General Secretary, Institute of Professional Civil Servants, London SE1.

Sir, — On May 25 you describe Lord's cricket ground, an ECU, and Jonathan Steele's appendix all as potential "time-bombs." Surely, some sort of record? — Yours faithfully, Justin Crawford, London N10.

Geoffrey Taylor

IT LOOKS AS though we are in for another public inquiry. This is the art-form in which Britain excels, though the honour is a doubtful one. It is further evidence, though surely none is needed, of the national loss of morale. We simply can't make up our minds.

The Government intends to build a nuclear reprocessing plant at Dounreay in Scotland. Fearing the worst, it made the announcement on the day the Commons rose for the Whit recess. This week therefore provides the first opportunity for MPs to issue their traditional call for a public inquiry with the widest possible terms of reference.

Presumably there was a time when these interminable inquiries did not happen. Stewell has only just finished after more than two years. We are fortunate that the major public utilities were established before Britain became the first country in the world to be governed by deep, perpetual, and omnipresent anxiety about both the present and the future.

Did the Romans, for example, have a moment's worry when they built the Pont du Gard? Did deeply concerned senators on a freebie from the capital point out the serious danger of the undertaking? Certainly (they would have said if they had been of our generation) it was desirable that Nimes should have a water supply, but were there not also means of securing it? Wells, for example, or buckets?

Suppose the masonry on the upper storey of the aqueduct should become dislodged. Might not innocent bystanders be put at serious risk? (In fact, of course, they would not have been there, but the point is that the Romans, the Roman Empire's greatest water-supply butt, had built the thing, it was sabotaged by terrorists).

Or consider a case nearer home when Dera Flak, the great reservoir supplying water to Sheffield, burst its banks on March 11, 1984, spilling 700 million gallons. Mr Kesteven has probably described the event in greater detail elsewhere — and may even have called for a retrospective inquiry — but basically it was the

Treaties Star Wars will break

Sir, — Starting with the nickname Lean Boy for the Hiroshima bomb, the nuclear arms race has thrown up many euphemisms to conceal its full horror. One of the most recent is the term "Star Wars" for President Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative.

To what extent the enterprise is based on a genuine desire to replace the present race in offensive arms with a system of effective defence, and how much it is stimulated by arms manufacturers, scientists and service personnel, perhaps not even President Reagan himself knows. But what is clear is that SDI is both wasteful and dangerous.

Most physicists outside government circles agree that it would be at most only partly successful. For example, many of the systems envisaged require space stations which would be very vulnerable to counter measures.

Two words that would have been lost in Wonderland



Sir, — I was delighted to read about the forthcoming Dennis Potter film *Dream Child* (Movie-Guardian, May 30). It will be interesting to see Alice in Wonderland interpreted as "a complicated love letter from a man of 30 to a girl of 10."

It was less pleasant to read Bart Mills's view that "Dodgson was a child molester" according to the 1985 understanding of the term. Bart Mills's understanding, perhaps?

Dodgson, a shy man with a severe stammer, felt at ease only in the company of children. As an early photographer, he often used his "child-friends" as subjects, sometimes nude, as was

quite fashionable in those times (viz. Sutcliffe, Faulkner).

He clearly loved Alice Liddell and channelled this into his literary work. One of Alice's requests — but there is no evidence of any physical relationship with her or any of his young friends.

Translated with strict accuracy, "Pedophile" might describe Dodgson as one who loved children. "Child molester" is hardly the same; nor does it describe a man who, by sharing the magic of his *Dream Child*'s world, enabled us all to enter Wonderland. — Yours faithfully, Michael Woolf, 21 Cremorne Road, London SW10.

Wipe those crocodile tears!

Sir, — Labour left-wing bite and pieces "rolling around and lasting out like dying crocodiles" (Agenda, May 20), is bad news at any time, quite apart from putting one off one's Guardian and crossant.

But how does Ken Livingstone manage to interpret tentative moves towards united left-wing action on a few key policies that as the behaviour of dying crocodiles? It is Ken, not us, who while stressing the imperative of a united confident Left, reduces our initiative for building such unity to a mere issue of "Labour's leadership."

Labour Briefing's letter to left-wing groups and campaigns, far from concentrating our energy on a leadership challenge, suggests six discussion points of which

Ticking off

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Three-Mile Island of the 19th century. In fact the only serious difference between Dera Flak and the mishap at the nuclear power station at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, is that when the dam burst it did a lot of damage and people were killed (270 of them). But the horses and carts of those days did not have stickers on them saying "Piped Water? No thanks." It was assumed, rightly, that lessons would be learned from the experience.

Consider again whether it would ever have been possible to get a gas undertaking going in today's hypercautious environment. The world's first gas company went into business in London in 1812.

In retrospect the very idea of piping a poisonous and explosive substance not only under the streets where people walked — and where fractures can so easily occur — but into the very homes where toddlers and old-age pensioners have access to the taps: surely the idea would have been doubted and trembled out of court.

Even if it ever came to electricity, one cannot seriously imagine that public disquiet today would allow so patently hazardous an enterprise to proceed without demonstrations every week-end. Fifty volts can disable, 100 volts can kill. Yet we have overhead cables carrying 480,000 volts. And even

There is also a great lack of clarity about the purpose of SDI. Initially presented as a means for population defence, it is now conceded — though not often publicly — that the most that can be hoped for is the defence of specific military sites, perhaps to protect a retaliatory force which could then be more effective in deterring a first strike.

However, even if it could be effective, such a purpose is open to Soviet misinterpretation. SDI might be useful as a bargaining chip in negotiations for arms reductions, but it is already clear that it is having the opposite effect. It is argued that it will create jobs and may have useful non-military spin-offs, both of these aims would be achieved more economically by other means.

And SDI will erode the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, signed in recognition of the fact that mutual coexistence

is a matter of necessity, it has already helped to retard the arms race. Although the treaty allows research on anti-missile systems, largely because a prohibition on research would be unworkable, it bans development and testing outside the laboratory.

There are difficulties over precisely what is meant by "development," but it is clear that SDI cannot proceed very far without infringing the provisions of the treaty. In addition some of the developments envisaged would involve breaking the Limited Nuclear Test Ban Treaty and the Outer Space Treaty.

SDI, including research on the scale at present envisaged, is likely to be perceived by the USSR as an escalation of the arms race.

The idea that the universities and the research councils can solve the chronic economic and social problems facing the country is ludicrous. To state that they should contribute to these solutions is to extol the virtues of motherhood and apple pie.

The danger is that, in setting unrealistic goals, the operations of these institutions will become so distorted that not only will they fail to achieve them, but they will also be unable to fulfil their primary objectives.

When the information technology initiatives were introduced a few years ago, the secretary of state announced that he would create 5,000 new jobs in the area. It is possible that God said, "Let there be light," followed by an act of creation. It is inconceivable that a secretary of state could create a single young person qualified to benefit from a university degree course in high technology.

Reading the Green Paper, one might conclude that the universities are at fault in not producing sufficient graduates in sciences and technology. When it is clear that any person qualified to benefit from courses in these areas can obtain a university place, Nor is it sensible to ignore the fact that some technologies are on the verge of being replaced by older, more established, and that the technologies of the next generation are probably still in the embryonic phase in science departments.

Such unity has already been achieved — in support of the miners. The Labour Party has a slogan: "Listen to women — for a change!" Listen indeed to working-class women in the Welsh mining areas.

Leaders are elected to do a job, not to be video stars for posterity. We have the right — and the duty — to recall them, especially when they have never happened, with no forum on the many issues we do agree on. Labour Herald's alternative (Agenda, May 20) is to prefer one journal or group can be the focus for the united campaign that we need.

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At one level the arms race stems from the US desire to be the greatest: its obsession with the horror of communism, and the paranoia — to many, those who understand the Soviet Union about invasion. And at another level, from the complex of industrialists, scientists, and soldiers who pervert political decisions from the common good.

SDI is clearly fed by this same complex and has the intention to abrogate the ABM Treaty can only further erode trust. Not only that, but the preferred hope that the present situation of mutual deterrence can be superseded by a technological fix inevitably distracts world opinion from the urgent need for reducing, and ultimately abolishing, nuclear stockpiles.

(Prof) Robert A. Hinde, Park Lane, Middlesbrough, Cambridge.

Apple pie and green papers

Sir, — The latest Green Paper from the Department of Education and Science is a masterpiece of self-deception which is already endangering the research councils' abilities to perform their statutory obligations.

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A COUNTRY DIARY

KESWICK: Spring and early summer go too quickly so, early today, the garden work was ignored and the cat, fast asleep by the mouse-infested bean rows, was left in charge. The soil was cloudless but the hills were still misty from the night. Cowslips are golden on the west side of Bassenthwaite lake, but in the bays towards the Solway coast summer is taking over. There are bluebells — bluer for their nearness to the coast — and red campion on the seaward bluffs. Pink sea thrift and white meadow saxifrage edge

the shore. Criffl looks deceptively far away on the Scottish side and the calm, blue-green tide is just turning far out on the sand. Sky-larks sing high in the air. So, at noon the road home seemed rather dull and so too did the small town of Aspatria — but not its churchyard. That had a lively air, almost of fete in the sun. Early women were cutting grass on the graves, tidying flowers, and calling to one another cheerfully. Aspatria graveyard by the church has a small, square pigeon house, the old

est building in the town, and I had always wanted to see inside. Now the door was open and one of the friendly women took me in, with the typical warm hospitality of the north. Its cool gloom smells sweetly of earth and you can look up, past honeycombs of pigeon niches, to the square roof and a smaller one above, once giving access to the birds. No one could feel a stranger there; even M. Hulot, no doubt tipping his hat punctiliously to the ladies, would be much at home.

ENID J. WILSON.

clear power programme is unacceptably dangerous. It receives more of the deeply furrowed anxiety which now surrounds us than all other forms of energy put together. But when you look for the facts they disappear into ambiguity, like the electrons themselves: possibly a few statistically hastened cancers over the decades — and even those are uncertain — but none of the abrupt collisions and oil-rig disasters which otherwise deeply anxious persons seem prepared to accept as the price of keeping warm.

Ab. but What about the possible hazards to the environment from all that radioactivity? We all that radioactivity amounts to a tiny fraction of the dosage, every one receives naturally, and an even tinier fraction of that received by people in Scotland living in granite houses.

Yes, indeed, there is the unsolved problem of how high-energy waste is to be rendered harmless, although for the time being it is harmless in storage. Some of it has to be isolated from the living environment for 100,000 years. But another way of dealing with it is barely comprehensible thought is to say that there is ample time to come up with ideas, some of them outlandish at present, like shooting it into the sun. So successfully identified with witchcraft has the nuclear programme become that the

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Reaping the whirlwind

Sir, — Ian Grest (May 28) compares the horrors of the present cyclone in Bangladesh with those of East Pakistan in 1977. He states that the earlier disaster killed "up to 500,000 people."

While it is tiring with grim statistics to point out that the figure was less than that of the 1970s, and league does serve as a useful warning to the international relief community.

From interviews with the Bangladesh ambassador in London and from the Bangladesh government's handling of the situation, it would seem that every effort is being made to keep the relief operation in the government's hands.

In a sensitive political period in Bangladesh, the propensity for a natural disaster to trigger a man-made one — eg. civil unrest — is high. Too often such an explosive mixture is stirred by the well-intentioned but crippling impact of an "international relief effort" in which often inappropriate assistance paralyses domestic relief efforts.

The 1970 analogue in an operational sense must be avoided. Since then the international machinery for effective disaster assessment, monitoring, and coordination has been created.

The UN Disaster Relief Organisation should be used for effective bilateral and multilateral donor coordination; the voluntary agency steering committee — comprising the main non-governmental organisations — should collaborate on grass-roots relief — all in close conjunction with authorities in Dacca.

Only with sensitive and appropriate assistance will the efforts of the compassionate with the efforts of 1970 be avoided. — Yours faithfully, Randolph C. Kent, Bishop's Lane, Robertsbridge, Sussex.

Sir, — While I have the deepest sympathy for the cyclone sufferers, I do take exception to Eric Silver's comment (May 28) that the victims of a similar cyclone in 1970.

Having served as the secretary of the Sind Province East Pakistan Cyclone Relief Committee (headed by Sir) in 1970 to 1971, I can personally vouch for the massive help we sent to the provincial government in Dacca.

By December 1970, the cyclone relief work had made so much progress that President Yahya Khan went ahead with the general elections in East and West Pakistan.

Now the government of Pakistan is rushing 10 million rupees' worth of relief goods to the cyclone sufferers in Bangladesh. — Yours faithfully, Quibuddeen Aziz, Embassy of Pakistan, London SW1.

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est building in the town, and I had always wanted to see inside. Now the door was open and one of the friendly women took me in, with the typical warm hospitality of the north. Its cool gloom smells sweetly of earth and you can look up, past honeycombs of pigeon niches, to the square roof and a smaller one above, once giving access to the birds. No one could feel a stranger there; even M. Hulot, no doubt tipping his hat punctiliously to the ladies, would be much at home.

ENID J. WILSON.

clear power programme is unacceptably dangerous. It receives more of the deeply furrowed anxiety which now surrounds us than all other forms of energy put together. But when you look for the facts they disappear into ambiguity, like the electrons themselves: possibly a few statistically hastened cancers over the decades — and even those are uncertain — but none of the abrupt collisions and oil-rig disasters which otherwise deeply anxious persons seem prepared to accept as the price of keeping warm.

Ab. but What about the possible hazards to the environment from all that radioactivity? We all that radioactivity amounts to a tiny fraction of the dosage, every one receives naturally, and an even tinier fraction of that received by people in Scotland living in granite houses.

Yes, indeed, there is the unsolved problem of how high-energy waste is to be rendered harmless, although for the time being it is harmless in storage. Some of it has to be isolated from the living environment for 100,000 years. But another way of dealing with it is barely comprehensible thought is to say that there is ample time to come up with ideas, some of them outlandish at present, like shooting it into the sun. So successfully identified with witchcraft has the nuclear programme become that the

THE SIZE of the annual company car market is not known: estimates range from the 40 per cent of all new cars registered put forward by Sam Toy, chairman of Ford UK, to the more widely quoted but less well researched 70 per cent. This year's total of new car sales will be in the region of 1.7 millions and so, by any calculation, the company orientated section of the market is massive.

Transport costs have soared over the past decade and the decisions affecting purchase and fleet management are of increasing importance. Executive perk or essential tool of the trade? The company car seems capable of provoking more antagonism than any other corporate benefit.

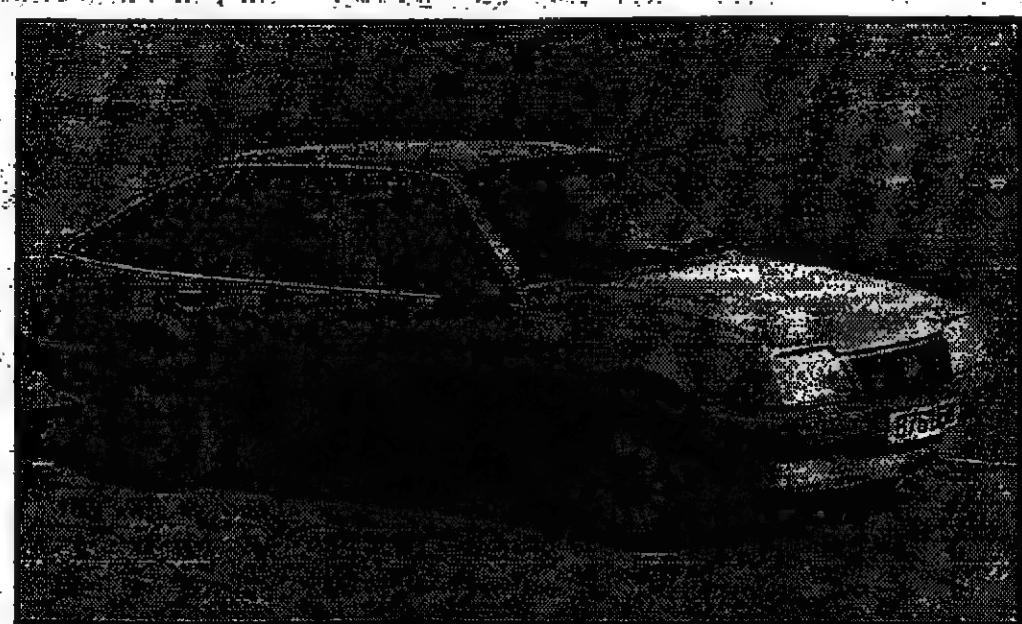
But car management, properly undertaken, goes far beyond merely supplying wheels to members of staff. Buying, running, and disposing of a vehicle fleet is a specialised task, a minefield for the unwary. In larger companies, a fleet manager will be fully occupied but smaller firms frequently give it a low priority, where someone is responsible for the cars in addition to his or her own job.

Far too many businesses leave these vital decisions to the untrained, unaware of the advantages and disadvantages of car purchase be it through HP, leasing, contract hire or outright purchase, of day to day cost control, and of disposal methods.

Accountants are seldom in a position to make sensible decisions about cars yet one of the greatest obstacles to achieving efficiency in fleet control, according to experts in the market, is the transport manager — often a man with fears for his job security and trapped by decisions made on an historical basis.

Motor cars are of general interest to most people and many directors and managers can be arrogant about their ability to run one. But if they can safely handle their own car, then it does not follow that they can properly and profitably run 500.

In this survey on fleet vehicles and finance, a team of industry experts look at some of the options currently available, at ways of improving efficiency, and at the scope for making savings on your fleet.



Cavalier — clear class leader with its tax-beating engine capacity



Granada — sharply priced and well equipped, will do well against the Senator



Fiat Uno — favoured by smaller fleets, now Europe's No 1 best seller



Metro — five doors add to its appeal

The chairmen's multimillion pound blind spot

FINANCIAL OPTIONS Clive Frusher

OVER three and a half million company cars are on the road in the UK today. Ranging from the workhorse of a sales representative to the perk car of a chairman, they represent a multimillion-pound expenditure by British business.

Whether they are called company car sales, fleet sales, business car sales, or sales into the corporate sector, they are acquired by a variety of methods, from all sectors, from the one-man business to companies operating car fleets running into thousands of vehicles.

For many companies, car fleets are the blind spot in financial management, despite the fact that they

represent major calls on company funds. The task of acquiring the fleet, keeping it on the road, and disposing of the vehicles at the end of varying periods, is more often than not allocated to someone with neither time, expertise, nor enthusiasm.

A moderately sized fleet of 200 cars costs over a million pounds to acquire and £250,000 a year to run. But the time given to that fleet is often minimal and, in the majority of boardrooms, the options for funding and running the cars are summarily dismissed among the welter of product planning reports, internal memos and management plans of an entirely different nature.

Against this background, contract hire has shown significant growth. So has fleet management.

In the 1970s almost all companies bought or man-

aged their own vehicle fleets. Now, about 500,000 cars are leased from some 800 companies. Almost 30 per cent of this market is held by the top ten leasing and contract hire companies. This market may well grow by at least 10 per cent a year over the next five years.

Outright purchase still remains, for the vast majority of UK businesses, the main method of acquisition of its cars. But there is often a higher interest rate, a deposit is necessary, and the interest rate is fixed over the period of contract — not a benefit during a period of falling interest rates.

The most common method of raising funds for the purchase of capital equipment is by overdraft, giving quick availability. Flexibility, lowest interest costs, and floating interest rates. But it reduces "credit line" from the bank, is subject to recall, and security is usually needed, although the equip-

ment purchased may be accepted for that purpose.

A bank loan is similar to an overdraft, but the term of repayment will be fixed. The interest is often higher, but the loan is not normally due to recall.

Hire purchase, popular with many smaller businesses, has the advantage that flexible periods are available and the cars are the security. But there is often a higher interest rate, a deposit is necessary, and the interest rate is fixed over the period of contract — not a benefit during a period of falling interest rates.

A lease giving the lessee (user company) the option to purchase at the end of the lease period is another method of purchase. The accounting treatment is the same as for hire purchase, the car being capitalised from the date of acquisition.

With finance leasing, the lessee bears depreciation and maintenance costs and risk. The company is responsible for all operating costs of the vehicle. But this popular funding method seems likely to have less appeal following a Budget in which 75 per cent capital allowances are reduced.

Over 62 per cent of companies in a recent survey retain their cars for three years or more, and almost 15 per cent have no defined replacement policy. The same lack of management is apparent in attitudes to vehicle repair and maintenance. Over a quarter of companies surveyed allowed the driver to authorise repairs up to £100 and 10 per cent give the driver authority to sanction repairs in excess of £100. Nearly half the responses, mainly from finance directors and company secretaries,

indicated that their control of expenditure on cars could be improved. There is a substantial marketing opportunity for professional service companies operating in this market.

Costs covered in contract hire usually include depreciation, funding, maintenance, administration, relief vehicle and road fund licence. The absolute levels of each cost vary according to a number of factors, but these costs, in some form or another, are inescapable.

Because of economies of scale and professionalism, contract hire companies' costs are usually lower than those which a typical company running a car fleet may expect. Within broad terms, therefore, the scale savings will probably equate to the profit element, or sometimes exceed it. The gross rentals will be equivalent to the costs

that the user company would expect to meet in any event.

Most contract hire clients have to evaluate ancillary factors such as on, or off, balance-sheet funding, capital outlay, cashflow, and management time. Contract hire gives a company fixed cost budgeting, although the vehicles remain the property of the hire company.

Contract hire without a maintenance agreement is a fixed-term lease in which the user company (lessee) pays a fixed monthly rental to the contract hire company (lessor) on the basis of a deposit equal to three months' rentals, followed by a further 21 equal monthly payments for a two-year term. Or 33 payments for a three-year term, commencing normally in month four. The user company pays for all the maintenance, vehicle recovery, and replacement cars. The con-

tract hire company carries the "residual" risk since it retains ownership of the vehicle.

A contract hire with maintenance agreement is the same as the above except that the contract hire company pays for all maintenance, replacement vehicles, and vehicle recovery.

Rates vary a good deal from company to company. But a Ford Escort — the UK's top seller in 1984 — could be run for two years or 40,000 miles without maintenance for £140 a month. With a maintenance agreement, the cost would rise to £170 a month.

A fleet management service offers a choice of service options which are provided on an actual cost basis in return for a management fee. It can obtain cars for a company at high discounts, sell the cars, and monitor all the fleet costs.

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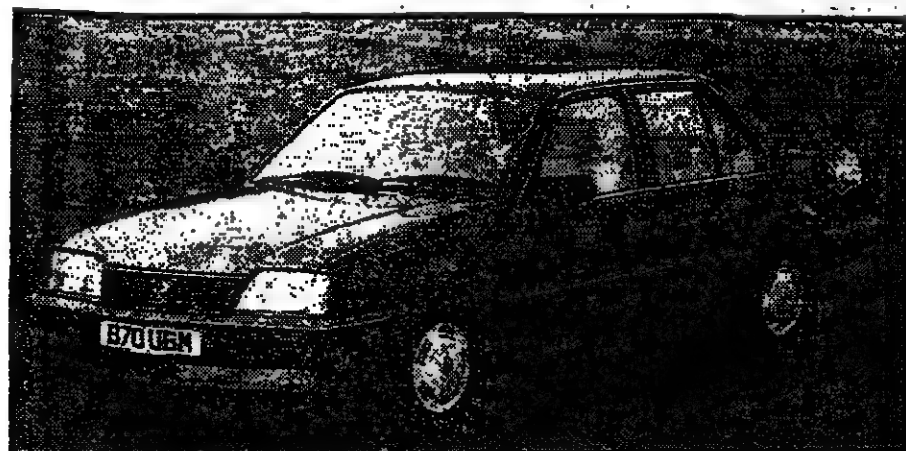
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RUNNING COSTS

Clive Frusher

SIX years ago it was all so very different. Ford's reliable and comfortable work-horse, the Cortina, stood proudly at the top of the UK new car sales charts. It was the number one car for thousands of companies and, in 1980, some 180,000 Cortinas were sold for a 12.6 per cent share of the market. Ford was constantly achieving 30 per cent as two other mainstream fleet cars, Escort and Fiesta, between them were taking a further 15 per cent share.

In the executive sector Ford was also dominant. Over 29,000 Granadas were sold — mostly into business and the structure of company car

fleets remained reasonably constant.

Austin Rover — or British Leyland in those days — was achieving over 18 per cent of the market. Its sales were led by the Mini and backed by the Marina, Allegro, Maxi, Princess and Rover.

Vauxhall, selling 41,000 of its "old model" Cavaliers and 46,000 Chevettes, was just short of 9 per cent of UK market share.

In the years following, the picture changed.

Ford lost its grip on 30 per cent share as Cortina was phased out. Austin Rover stayed roughly at its 1980 level as it almost entirely changed its product range, and Vauxhall more than doubled its share with the

advent of the new Cavalier, Astra, and Nova models.

Escort has taken over as the best seller — top of the sales charts for the last three years — but can no longer dominate the market to the same extent as Cortina.

The pattern of change is reflected in company car fleets today. In the bread and butter section — that which the manufacturers call the upper medium sector — it is a three-horse race with Cavalier forging ahead, followed by Sierra, and with Austin Rover's new challenger, the Montego, striving to overhaul the Ford Cortina replacement for second spot.

Because most companies still operate a Buy British policy, the structure of the majority of car fleets will not

change overnight. But today there is much more information available to those people who run the fleets to help them decide which, in pure cost terms, they should consider running.

Driver satisfaction still plays an important role in car fleet policy. As does whether or not a particular car fits the image of the driver or the company. Increasingly, however, and especially during periods of recession, fleet managers are under constant pressure from managing directors and financial directors to produce more than one reason why cars remain on a company's choice list.

The fleet manager is also being asked to look at the alternatives for car fleet funding and the most cost effective periods to run cars —

whether to change at two, three or four years.

Publications which reflect this need for knowledge have built up databanks with information on thousands of cars from car fleets of different sizes, doing varying jobs and with differing replacement cycles. The result is that guidelines have been drawn: what companies make of the data is another matter.

One such publication, Fleet News, draws its information from fleets totalling 72,000 cars. It presents cost comparisons for most makes of cars, typically those which predominate in fleet, projecting down to a fraction of a penny what a car will cost over different mileage periods. Together with information supplied by its sister publication, Fleet Facts, it provides

figures which a fleet manager can balance against what is happening in his own fleet.

What these figures show most of all is that it is not the new car price which is most important. The major factors are service and maintenance costs, fuel figures and what the fleet operator will get for his vehicles at the end of its work-life — the residual factor.

Motor cars are a depreciating asset and the value of a second hand fleet car, by whichever method it is disposed, can make a huge difference to the whole life cost of a company car.

There are few awful cars on the new car market today. But the differences in running costs for companies with more than 10 cars can be sufficient in two to four years

to be marked enough for these companies to make substantial savings if they choose the right product at the right time.

Fractions of a penny certainly count for professional fleet managers. Scrutiny of the cost of ownership tables in fleet publications has become part and parcel of his working life. A look at the costings of some of fleet's best sellers shows how the differences may initially be small but, over thousands of miles, become more significant.

According to Fleet News the four-door Montego 1.6L is the most cost effective car in its class. If it is run for three years and covers 60,000 miles it will cost 13.36 pence per mile, compared with 13.89p per mile for the four-door Cavalier 1.6L and 13.88p per mile for the five-door Sierra 1.6L.

Depreciation, service and maintenance costs (routine servicing, wear and tear replacements and anticipated repair costs) and fuel economy are all taken into account.

Similar factors, applied to three leading 1.3L models but over a two year and 50,000 miles period, reveal the Maestro (11.47p), Astra (11.56p) and Escort (11.77p) are closely fighting the cost of ownership battle.

And among the 1600cc estates Montego (13.33p), Cavalier (13.93p) and Sierra

(14.61p) are seen as the most effective contenders in the over 20,000 mile period.

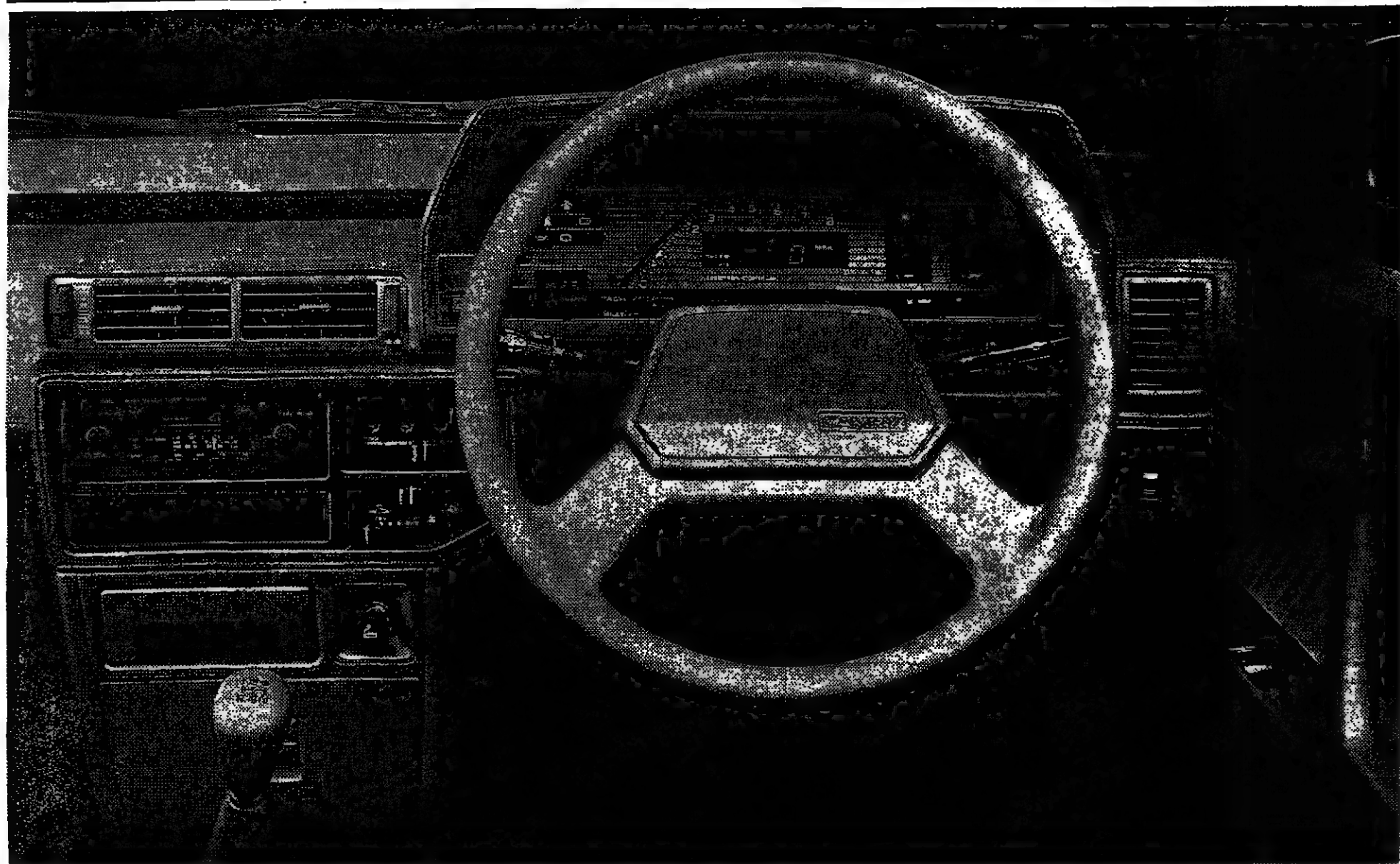
Many companies are also looking at the whole-life cost of executive cars. Again, the up-front price plays only a small part in the total equation.

As an example, consider the pence per mile costs of a number of executive cars over a three year/60,000 miles period, with all the cars retailing around £20,000 to £25,000 mark.

Fleet News says a Cavalier 1.8CDI at £23,341 costs 15.87p per mile while a Sierra 2.0 Ghia at £23,130 costs 16.60p. An Audi 100 L4 4+E listed at £23,844 costs 17.75p, a Renault 25 2.0GTS at £29,090 costs 17.83p, a VW Passat 2.0GL at £23,396 is calculated to cost 17.21p and a Saab 900 2.0i listed at £23,630 costs 19.15p per mile over the three years.

As second hand values of imported cars strengthen in comparison with UK budget cars — and it is increasingly happening — so the differences in cost of ownership will narrow.

The benchmark cars have changed over the past six years and will continue to change. Total cost of ownership will continue to play a major role in a company's car fleet policy. The winner will be the car fleet operator, served by better product and relevant information.



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We've put everything into it but a colour TV: air conditioning, power steering, stereo radio and cassette with electric aerial, electric door mirrors, electric sunroof, electric windows, central locking, alloy wheels...where do we stop?

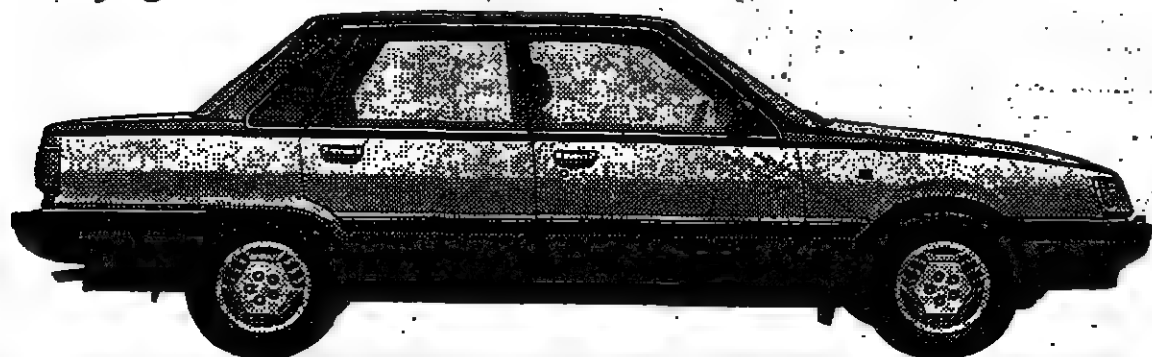
We have also equipped the Camry with a very responsive accelerator pedal.

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DIESELS — key facts

	Price	Depr	S+M	Fuel	Total
AUDI					
80 1.6 turbo 4dr 5sp	8828	7.62	3.02	4.10	14.74
CITROEN					
EX 1.8RD 5dr 5sp	6597	6.58	3.05	4.07	13.68
FORD					
Fiesta 1.6DL 5dr 5sp	5712	4.41	1.81	3.32	9.54
Escort 1.6DL 5dr 5sp	6263	4.90	2.11	3.60	10.61
Orion 1.6DL 4dr 5sp	6556	5.03	2.11	3.45	10.59
Sierra 2.3LD 5dr 5sp	7202	5.89	2.42	4.73	13.04
PEUGEOT					
205 1.8XLD 5dr 5sp	5320	5.02	2.67	3.42	11.11
305 1.8GLD 4dr 5sp	5395	5.31	2.63	4.21	12.75
505 2.5GLD 4dr 5sp	8395	8.73	2.84	5.41	16.98
RENAULT					
91 1.7TD 4dr 5sp	5720	5.35	2.09	4.10	11.54
11 1.7GTD 5dr 5sp	6365	6.21	2.02	4.10	12.33
TALBOT					
Horizon 1.9LD 5dr 5sp	5675	5.96	2.78	4.27	13.01
VAUXHALL					
Astra 1.6LD 5dr 5sp	6438	5.04	2.12	4.27	11.43
Cavalier 1.6LD 4dr 5sp	6968	5.29	2.25	4.48	12.02
VOLKSWAGEN					
Golf 1.6CD 5dr 5sp	5772	5.44	2.08	3.95	11.48
Jetta 1.8CLD 4dr 5sp	7198	5.82	2.11	3.98	11.89

Figures from Fleet Facts magazine which show how much it costs to run certain diesel cars over three years and 75,000 miles on a pence per mile basis.

All figures are shown as pence per mile and depreciation of the cars is taken from 12.5 per cent of the list price shown. Service and maintenance costs cover all anticipated expenditure to keep the vehicle running, but do not include replacement vehicles or membership of any motoring organisations.

Fuel figures are based on £1.98 a gallon, using Department of Transport figures to produce a consumption factor of: 2 x urban cycle, plus 1 x 56 mph, plus 1 x 75 mph, divided by four.

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سكنا من الامل

IT SEEMS THAT AWARDS ARE STANDARD EQUIPMENT ON THE NEW MONTEGO.

SIX MAJOR AWARDS FOR MONTEGO IN TEN SHORT MONTHS.

For a car that's only been on the road a short while, the Montego has built quite a winning reputation.

Not that we weren't anticipating success when the first full scale model sailed through its wind-tunnel test with an unbroken trail of smoke caressing the car's contours to record a drag coefficient of just 0.37.

That the accolades should come so thick and fast is something of a pleasant surprise. But this was only a beginning.

'MOTOR' MAKES US 'THE BEST MIDDLEWEIGHT' IN DECEMBER 1984.

'Motor' magazine was the first to register its respect of the Montego.

We quote "the Montego poses a potent threat to Ford and GM in the middle-weight ranks."

The Montego's strength lies in its being such an accomplished all-rounder.

The 1.6L that saw off Ford's Sierra, Vauxhall's Cavalier and Toyota's Carina in a Group Test confrontation earlier this year, doubled up very respectable performance and economy with good refinement, secure well-balanced handling, a fine ride, a slick gear change and

MONTEGO'S MEAN AVERAGE GETS THE FLEET OWNERS' VOTE.

That most critical of buying groups, the fleet owners through the medium of 'Fleet Facts', sat in judgement on the Montego and countless other vehicles in December '84.

Theirs was basically a cost of ownership test based on a 2 year/40,000 miles calculation.

This calculation took into account estimates of future maintenance and depreciation costs and fuel consumption.

When the calculators were put away the Montego was put in first place.

This verdict was confirmed this month when 'Fleet News' also announced that "Montego shows as the most cost-effective car in its sector."

IN APRIL, 'WHAT CAR?' VOTED MONTEGO THE BEST FAMILY SALOON.

In competition with 26 illustrious rivals the Montego

impressed with the interior space, the style and luxury of the trim. It spoke highly of the equipment, good performance and economy.

All in all, journalists who really know their business, described it as "a well thought-out machine that shines in many areas where its rivals are merely competent."

The spiciest family saloon on the market and, like all Austins, is cheap to service and little bother to maintain, with many dealers.

There was more to come.

THE SAME ISSUE MADE MONTEGO ESTATE CAR OF THE YEAR.

Like its saloon counterpart, the Montego 1.6L estate took the Best Estate Car category by a wide margin. "At last" 'What Car?' proclaimed, "Austin Rover have an estate car that leads the field."

"As a five seater mid-price estate we can with confidence say the car has no peer, and there are

excellent load space; good performance; big dealer back-up and the reasonable price tag.

And, talking of tags...

TO COMPLETE THE SET, THE MONTEGO RANGE WAS SELECTED TO CARRY THE COVETED DESIGN CENTRE TRIANGLE.

The Montego is the first range of cars to be selected to carry the Design Centre triangle. The Council made the decision based on the following outstanding features.

The Montego's space packaging; roadholding; and handling; low wind noise; ventilation; bootspace and good attention to detail (that attention to detail included our unique adjustable front seatbelt anchorage points so that both small and large people can properly adjust their belts to the correct position).

You can judge yourself just how right the Design Council was by simply phoning 0272 217 217.



outstanding interior space. Add to that conventional good looks and a high standard of interior appointment for the price, and it's not hard to see why the Austin makes such an effective package". Unquote.

1.6HL took this category by a clear margin.

"The excellence of Austin's family saloon makes it an easy winner."

'What Car?' was particularly

few rivals able to carry an extra two passengers on (optional) rear-facing luggage compartment seats, either."

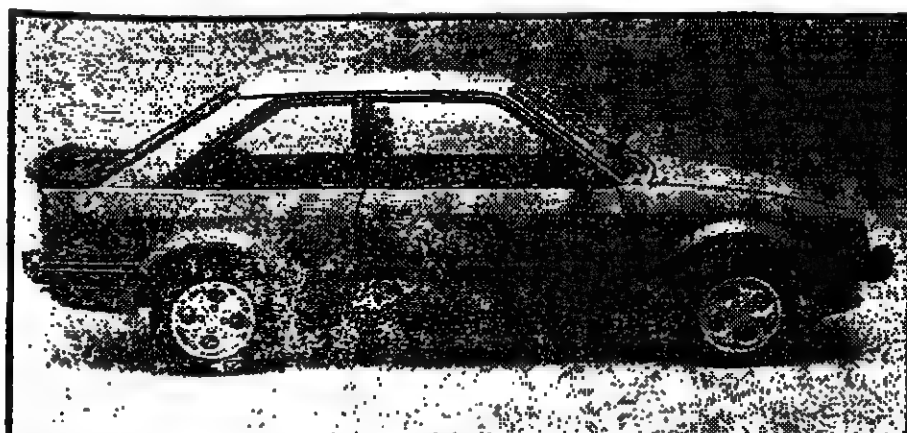
To sum up, 'What Car?' was impressed by the luxury trim;

That call will organise an extended Montego test drive at a local Austin Rover dealer who'll be only too pleased to demonstrate just how you can "Take off in style."



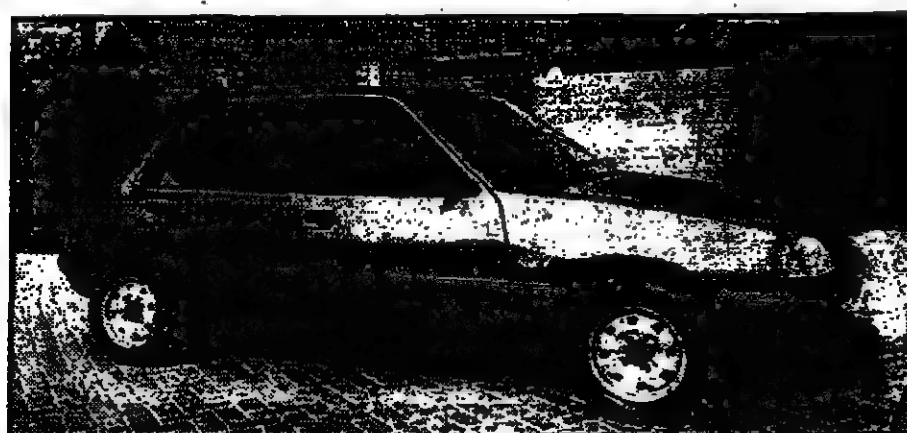
The Montego. Winning is part of the specification.

Car shown - Montego 1.6HL Saloon. Price range from 1.3 Saloon at £15,685 to the MG Montego Turbo Saloon at £16,901. DOT Figures: Montego 1.6L and 1.6HL Saloons simulated urban cycle 51.9mpg/8.9L per 100km. Constant 56mph 53.3mpg/8.3L per 100km. Constant 75mph 38.8mpg/7.5L per 100km. Prices correct at time of going to press, excluding number plates and delivery. NATIONWIDE CAR RENTAL RESERVATIONS THROUGH BRITISH CAR RENTALS, TEL: 0203 77223. AUSTIN ROVER TAX-FREE SALES INFORMATION - TEL: 021-475 210 EXT. 220.



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THE CHOICE

Kevin Blick

NO ONE knows the size of the company car market in Britain but even the most conservative pundits agree it is massive. Some analysts calculate that seven out of ten new cars may be bought by or for companies. Ford UK's chairman, Sam Toy, is more cautious and places the figure at nearer 40 per cent of the total. That still gives a market ranging between 700,000 and 1.2 million of last year's total 1.745 million new car sales.

It's big business — and shared, despite the efforts of the importers, largely between "British" manufacturers. "British" and not simply British because in the minds of most customers, the possession of a comfortably patriotic name plate is enough: the true source of manufacture is rarely sought. Hence part Japanese Rovers are as British as Spanish made Fiestas or Belgian made Cavaliers or Halewood built Escorts.

Always hierarchical in nature, the company car fleet has now become divided along the arbitrary lines of the Inland Revenue's taxation classes. A company car is still calculated to be better value in tax terms than the additional salary required to run a private car, but the choice of tax class is beginning to bite — and this is increasingly reflected in "tax beater specials" from the bigger sellers.

Up to 1300cc

Bigger cars may be bought as perks or chosen on individual whim but the small cars in this class do the hard work. Typically, they are the cars of any company's field force — its salesmen, engineers, and messengers. They are bought in bulk, sold in bulk, and usually thrashed mercilessly in between. They

are also, not surprisingly, Britain's best selling cars: the Ford Escort was last year's clear number one with 157,000 sold, the Fiesta was third, and the Metro fourth.

The Fiesta and Metro have scrapped over leadership of the supermini category since the latter's launch, though the Ford with its more established fleet sales structure has a lead in company sales. Nothing else in the class comes close to this pair for volume: the Vauxhall Nova is next up with around half the sales (55,000 last year) and after that comes the VW Polo — a car largely bought by private customers.

The Fiesta could suffer this

French kits. Should it be called a Peugeot — identifiably a French name — or a Talbot — questionably British but with a fast fading reputation? The arguments rage.

Of the other superminis, there are few that sell in any serious numbers to companies: the new Renault 5 could be an exception, especially following the successful start of the bigger, executive class 25 model. The Fiat Uno is well established in the top twenty best sellers. Small fleets like it and the coming 134mph Uno Turbo could be a tempting question-on in happier days the chic little new Lancia Y10 might have appealed to a certain style of

but that looks optimistic at present — a shame since the Ellesmere Port built Astra is a genuine Briton.

Vauxhall's continuing push for sales — last year with the Cavalier and bigger models, this year with the smaller Astra and Nova — provides a continuing problem for Austin Rover, squeezed between GM's determination to gain more of the UK market and Ford's stubborn resistance. In the last two years GM has climbed from an 11.6 per cent share to 16.17 per cent last year, at the expense of both rivals.

The Austin Maestro already looks a casualty: second seller in the class last year, though with half the Escort numbers, it has already slipped well below the Astra in 1985.

The fleet buyers insistence on conventional saloon models appears to be largely forgotten: the best sellers are all hatchbacks, and saloons like the Ford Orion or Rover 213 (AR's reworked Honda model) can't rival their five-door counterparts. Nevertheless the hatchback/saloon mix is useful for importers by allowing them to offer smaller businesses a fleet that is structured yet not run of the mill — the VW Golf/etta, Renault 9/11, and Fiat Strada/Regata are all fleet runs. Not, though, many Japanese cars. With imports voluntarily restricted, only Nissan has the sales volume to justify an attack on the fleet sector, but they and the others prefer the more profitable private sales. And, driving schools still resist non-BEC cars.

1301cc-1800cc

The arbitrary 1800cc tax class division was, it is said, a piece of subtle bureaucratic assistance to BL — the only volume car maker which then had a 1.8 litre engine size.

However, Austin Rover is now the only manufacturer with sales through its possession of such "specials".

The Vauxhall Cavalier is the clear class leader. It has sub-1.3 versions, as do the others in its sector, but its mainstays are its 1.6 and 1.8 variants. The battle between it and the Ford Sierra for the hearts, minds and cheque-books of the fleets is now over: the shouting — and the Cavalier has won. Last year it sold 20,000 more than the Sierra; in the first four months of this year it had already sold 15,000 more. Not that victory was cheap: Vauxhall made a loss last year, in spite of record sales, having spent £13.6 million more than planned on bonuses and incentives.

Ford has far from given up with the Sierra, though. Having initially resisted, it now has 1.8 models (though performance models are still a tax class up on the Vauxhall) and an image boosting four-wheel-drive model, too.

Behind these two American giants, Austin Rover has again found it difficult to become established. The four-door Montego saloon, launched last year, made a slow start — fleet buyers hadn't been happy with early model reliability on previous AR new cars. Now it is picking up but still needs to improve further.

The bigger, British engine version of the Rover — the 216 — has boosted company sales of this model and given AR another opportunity in this class.

But the 1.8 category is all about tax beaters. Everyone has them, whether they are rather dreary 1.8 litre Ford Granada and Vauxhall Carlton versions, or small engine models like the Audi 100 and BMW 5-Series: it is almost

possible to judge a company's involvement in business car sales through its possession of such "specials".

The most exciting, however, are the "hot hatchbacks" — personified by the VW Golf GTI and Escort XR3i. It has been the fastest growing sector of the car business, to companies as well as private buyers. After all, what young executive needs persuading into a Golf GTI when the alternative is a bigger, slower car that he will also pay more tax for?

Hardly a company lacks one of these high performance small cars now, and most fall into this middle tax band. The

years of small importers, sales last year doubled and are expected almost to double again this year, though that will still give them little more than 4 per cent of the market. The arrival of Vauxhall and Ford 1.6 diesels has been crucial to fleet acceptance, while other new generation diesels from Peugeot and Renault have helped reinforce the engine's improved image. A Hertz Leasing study concluded that running a diesel for four years and 100,000 miles could save an operator £3,000 over an equivalent petrol engine car through greater economy, lower maintenance and higher resale value.

up with top cars for top management (hence the need for a Vauxhall Senator). At this level the importers — it is clearer — last year BMW, Audi, and Mercedes totalled 22 per cent of sales to private buyers, just less than Ford's leading 25 per cent.

Until the new Granada arrived last month, the executive sector sales were dominated by a pair of elderly models — the Rover range and the old Granada. Despite a chequered career, the big Rovers still sell well but must inevitably fade in the face of the new big Ford. The Austin-Honda developed Project XX will not come too soon for AR when it arrives early next year.

Ford hopes the coming of the Granada will slow the revival of the Carlton/Senior models of Vauxhall — on the cleverly restyled and relaunched to catch the cusp of interest in the company.

German cars are strong executive class sellers — BMW, Mercedes, and Audi all maintain an enviable steady pattern of growth here. So, too, does Volvo, with an expanding range of its big 700 series, but fellow Swede Saab is rather marking time until the 9000 is launched in the autumn. But the greatest credit should go to Renault — its 25 model has proved the hit of the year, and at a time when the company badly needed a success.

Overall, though, the coming months will see the Big Three manufacturers continue to argue over the slicing of the company car cake. Ford is too greedy and must give some up, say the other two — a sentiment to which Ford, naturally, does not agree. This year Austin Rover, with a widening model range, might be able to fight for more, as it needs to. Meanwhile the import nibble the crumbs and mostly grow fat on them.



Rover 213 SE — Japanese or British?

year, however, Austin Rover is already pushing hard its facelifted Metro, which now has five-door variants, and the Vauxhall Nova — one of the Spanish made "Britons" — has recently widened its range with four and five-door newcomers.

Behind these the Peugeot 205 is keeping the ailing British Peugeot-Talbot network alive, but the fleet buyers' obsession with Britishness is causing some headaches at Coventry. An important newcomer later this year is the Escort-sized C8, which will be assembled in the British factory from

business, but even the might of the Heron group is having difficulty persuading buyers into Lancias just now.

In the medium class, which straddles both 1300 and 1800cc tax breaks, Vauxhall set itself up to challenge the remarkable dominance of the Ford Escort with a futuristically styled new Astra model, announced last autumn. Unfortunately production line teething troubles and then a strike have left Vauxhall very short of cars to meet the heavy launch orders. The company expected to increase sales over the old model by 50 per cent this year

MG Maestro — higher tax bracket

XR3i is the biggest seller, inevitably, but the Golf GTI set the pace for style and performance. Others, notably the new aerodynamic Astra GTE and the pretty Peugeot 205GTI, have made inroads, however. Austin Rover's MG versions of Maestro and Montego are 2.0 litre and in a higher tax bracket than most — but such a thought is unlikely to worry customers for the new 126 mph Montego Turbo.

At the opposite end of the performance spectrum, another growth area has been diesel sales. The province for

Over 1800cc

Last year GM debated long and hard over whether to rechristen its Opel Senator as a Vauxhall, eventually opting in favour of the "British" Vauxhall image. The most expensive version of the new Ford Granada sells at £25,590 — money that will buy a mainstream BMW, Mercedes Benz, Saab, and even a base Jaguar. Evidence that the executive car market is where the volume makers face their toughest test. They must rely on the impetus of volume sales in smaller classes — fleets completing their line-



Sierra Cosworth RS — the executive's fancy

Which company boss takes over as the admiral of the fleet?

DECISION MAKING

Peter West

IF a business has a fleet of vehicles on its books, who takes the purchasing decision? The answer depends on two factors: the size of the company, and the size of the fleet.

A small publishing company is likely to provide its sales force with cars; a similar sized architectural practice is unlikely to provide them for any employee. The publishers will use engine size and model variants as status differentials; in the architectural practice a senior partner may have a car as an executive perk. In either business it is likely that the company secretary, whether he occupies that function as a stand-alone job, or whether he is a director/partner who is also the company secretary, has most influence over the amount of money spent on new cars being bought into the company fleet.

The fleet may constitute one to one thousand vehicles, and some are larger still. The more cars in the fleet, the greater the incidence of a fleet manager to look after them; furthermore, the larger the fleet the more structured the choice of models will be. This is directly related to the likelihood of their being a pecking order: small cars for reps, larger cars for managers, larger still for senior managers.

This structuring results in more easily managed cost control, and an easier life for the fleet manager. As the fleet size grows, so does the influence of the fleet manager with

regard to the choice of car, until it reaches the point where bulk purchase becomes a negotiable possibility — at which time the choice is likely to revert to the company secretary or finance director who may deal directly with a car company, rather than a local franchised dealer. The four largest car makers in the UK all have fleet development, or fleet sales, managers, as do many of the senior importers. They are there to deal directly with customers, and the size of fleet belonging to those customers is falling all the time.

Traditionally, fleet sales have been the prerogative of the franchised dealer, the retailer appointed by the car company to sell its products, but as over-capacity amongst European car makers pressures the new car market, and consequently retail margins are squeezed more and more, the car companies are opening direct accounts with smaller fleet owners.

As in the domestic decision to buy a car, fleet purchasing can represent a substantial capital investment for a business. It is natural, therefore, for the company secretary to have a major influence on the choice of vehicle. The private buyer is often quoted in the trade as making "the second biggest purchase of his life" (his home being the biggest) when buying a new car for himself out of taxed income. The same applies to many business buyers, especially in service industries. And even in manufacturing, the fleet may represent a larger capital outlay than other fixed asset expenditure; property probably being the only exception. The fleet is also quite likely to be the fastest

depreciating capital asset — an idle pool car still depreciates more quickly than an idle machine tool, and a fully used company car certainly depreciates faster, and costs more to run, than most other pieces of equipment. So it is hardly surprising that the company secretary/finance director retains a major influence, even when there is a fleet manager in residence.

When the business's financial executive makes his choice, cost and reliability are his main criteria for the general fleet. The choice of cars for senior executives is more open to influence by those executives, who are likely to be given parameters of, in ascending order of price, range, nationality of makers and engine capacity.

This is true at both ends of the scale: the director of a small company is more likely to employ his personal prejudices in choosing the car his company will buy, and run, for him, than the analysed cost information available to the larger fleet owner. The personal taste factor becomes acute amongst small businesses buying vehicles that have to serve as both personal transport and goods carriers. In this area the purchase will be made from a local dealer. None the less, it is still likely that the chequer-signer in the company will be the individual who exercises greatest choice in the selection of the vehicle.

A successful painter and decorator is more likely to buy himself a new panel van, and maybe run a substantially second-hand Jaguar, than the other way round. And he is likely to be the company secretary into the bargain.

So far it has been assumed that the vehicle bought for a business will be an outright purchase, financed on hire-purchase. As leasing increases in popularity, whether closed-end, where the vehicle returns to the lessor, or open-end, the business's housekeeper, whatever his title, is drawn more closely into the choice of vehicle. As more car dealers take on their supplier's own leasing packages, or offer a stitched-on lease from outside, the negotiation for the purchase becomes more involved.

The decision to lease, or outright purchase, or contract hire, or whatever acquisition policy the company may have, is directly related to cash flow, and that is the concern of the person in control of the company's trading records.

In a survey of 3,000 fleet owners, the Automotive Business, a motor trade magazine, asked who in the company was responsible for acquisition policy; 942 respondents chose between fleet manager, transport manager and company secretary/finance director. The results were 24.5 per cent fleet or transport manager, 28 per cent company secretary, and 17.5 per cent other job titles.

Fleet buyers were then asked to mark out of ten their most important criteria. The purchase price was most important, scoring 9, next reliability, 7, fuel economy, 6, petrol consumption, 5, British made (and perceived to be British made) 4. The two aspects of aftermarket involvement were thought to be equally important: availability of spares and re-sale value each scored 5.

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موبيل من الاموال



Orion
— below the magic 1800cc
company car tax bracket



Golf
— it could take 56,000 miles
for a diesel
to pay for itself

When it's cost effective to go diesel

PETROL V DERV
Ian Wagstaff

TO RUN, or not to run, diesel engine cars is a debate much in vogue. After years of regarding Britain as an unlikely market for cars with compression ignition engines, manufacturers are now reacting to the changing attitudes of the private motorist, and, particularly of the fleet buyer. Or is it that the customers are reacting to the increased variety that the manufacturers are offering them?

Last year 45,382 diesels were sold in this country, against 24,802 the year before. More importantly, there are now 75 different models available from 13 makers, with Audi, Citroën, Daihatsu, Ford, Mitsubishi, Peugeot, Renault, Vauxhall, and Volkswagen offering cars with capacities below that magic 1800cc company car tax bracket. If the break point for company diesel cars was increased to two litres then Mercedes-Benz, Talbot, and Toyota could join the fray, while the others could look forward to increasing popularity for some of their larger models.

Although one is being jointly developed with Perkins, based on the ARG O-series, there is no diesel engine from Austin Rover yet. Even the diesel Rover SD1 which is sold in Italy has an Italian engine. This has led to strongly denied suggestions

that the Government is maintaining the small differential between petrol and derv for the present in order to encourage the overseas diesel car producers.

The choice, though, is varied, and the days when the Volkswagen Golf was the only diesel under two litres have long gone. The advent of the turbo-charged diesel car has also changed the picture, for this offers a far more acceptable performance. The latter will in no way have the zest of the petrol driven turbo car, but it will—at least—be almost on a par with its normally aspirated counterparts. Diesels are particularly suited to being turbo-charged, for a diesel's power is controlled by varying the richness of the mixture, and not by throttling a theoretically constant mixture strength with a butterfly valve. Thus, the diesel intake is never obstructed up to the inlet valve, and the turbo-charger's boost not blocked off when the driver lifts off.

Poor performance has long been an objection to the diesel, and even the hardest fleet manager does not want to think that he is causing a force of disgruntled representatives to spend their lives scanning the Sits Vac columns. No high mileage man wants to hang about. What is the point of giving a man a 1500cc diesel, when you might have let him run a 1000cc petrol driven car with the same performance? The private diesel owner may be the man who drives steadily, but the person with a company diesel is likely to thrash

it, in order to keep up with his peers. Then those wondrous consumption figures claimed for the diesel start to come down.

It may also be that the employee is not only dissatisfied by the car's performance—and make no mistake, poor power output is the norm—he may also be upset by the car's total lack of charisma. Will the neighbours make the hackneyed snide remarks about this "taxi"? Attitudes are slow to change, and most people find diesels noisy and diesel fumes offensive; some even think of the fumes as being harmful. Then there is the oft-quoted problem of finding the derv pump round the back of the filling station swimming in a sea of oil. This is tending to change on modern forecourt sites. Shell, in particular, has increased the number of its derv selling sites from 900 to over 1,600 over the past two years.

There are fleet owners now who, after carefully examining the balance sheet, have decided upon diesel cars, and gritted their teeth until the initial objections have died down. Often they have found that the drivers, once they have experienced the realities rather than the myths of running a diesel, are quite satisfied. Executives can, perhaps, be coaxed into running a diesel by being offered a turbo. But whether an executive is likely to do the mileage necessary to make a diesel cost effective is a moot point.

Diesels are less of a pleasure to run, so the financial

side of operating them must make sense. The private motorist driving about 10,000 miles a year would be best to remain with petrol driven cars. However, taxi and cab operators would not dream of anything but diesels. Somewhere in between there must be a break-even point. The problem is that it varies from car to car. A calculator is required before the final decision is made.

For a start you are going to pay a much higher purchase price for a car that is less desirable. If it were not for the other factors involved, this would seem madness. The difference between a Peugeot 505 GL and a Peugeot 505 GL Diesel is £760. The gap is narrower between, say, the Vauxhall Cavalier 1.6 SL 5-door and its diesel counterpart: £315. But if you want a turbo-charged diesel, the gap widens appreciably. The Volkswagen Golf GL and the GL Turbo Diesel is £1,507. With gaps of as little as 7p between the cost of a gallon of petrol and of diesel, that is one very high mileage you are going to have to do to justify such a car.

Other factors do come into consideration. These include lower insurance rates and, because of the comparative rarity of diesel cars at present, lower depreciation. Presumably this advantage will disappear if such vehicles increase in popularity.

The problem would be easier for the fleet buyer if he were based on the Continent,

particularly Spain or Italy. In the latter, diesel is about one-third the price of petrol. But, to be fair, complicated road tax laws do confuse the issue, and close the financial incentive. The Italian Government had to find some way of preventing a total move over to diesel cars.

On the Continent diesels account for 12 per cent of the car market. Last year in Britain, in spite of the availability of such popular cars as Fiesta, Escort, and Cavaliers, the percentage was 2.6. Obviously with our pricing structures, the diesel is less attractive here. Before making up his mind the fleet buyer must consider all the aspects involved. After all, it could take as much as 56,000 miles for a diesel Golf to pay for itself.

Three years on . . . where do all the old cars go?

SELLING
Clive Fruster

SECOND HAND VALUES of cars are only a reflection of the health or otherwise of both the new and used car markets. Residual values—the "in" definition—will continue to be influenced by the laws of supply and demand for both new and used cars. An excess of new cars is just as damaging to residual values as an excess of used cars.

Events of recent years have highlighted that interdependence. It has always been in the interests of the vehicle industry to maintain good residual values for its products, yet this aspect continues to be ignored and short-term measures are taken to overcome today's problems to the detriment of the future. The main problem of the eighties has been the burden of excess manufacturing capacity. Without a stable and smooth flowing market, the whole motor industry is put at risk.

In 1978 some 2½ million used cars were retailed by the motor trade; last year this had dropped to slightly under 1.8 million. The total number of used cars over that period increased by nearly two million and yet car sales handled by the trade had dropped by over half a million. This situation has been brought about mainly by dealers turning used car business away.

For the franchised dealer, the position is worse. Still, in 1984, the total new car market was about 1.75 million vehicles. The total used car

market was about 4.5 million vehicles. But the motor trade's share of this market was around 1.8 million last year. Nevertheless, selling to the trade is a common method of disposal. One of the attractions is allegedly that the trader will take the good with the bad.

One option now open to people wishing to dispose of their cars is the auctions, regarded by some as the second oldest profession in the world. Tom Madden, a director of British Car Auctions, says "It is the most successful way of selling certain goods. My definition of an auction would be a place where willing buyers bid in competition for goods in demand and of varying values and create, through the skill of an auctioneer, a higher price than would be paid by the buyers bidding individually. We contribute as a service, if you like, to the motor trade by distributing hundreds of thousands of vehicles a year. And that volume is increasing all the time."

Because the auction can handle every aspect of disposal, an owner of a company car fleet from almost all involvement, it is becoming the most popular disposal method. At the fleet owner's request, the auctioneers will collect the vehicles, clean them, advise about reserve prices, test them, and report so they can be sold within days of being retired from the car fleet and a cheque in payment will be in the hands of the fleet manager a few days after that.

Auctions will dispose of the whole available fleet—not just select the best and leave the rest. Prices remain on average around current market value, sometimes depending on condition of the car concerned. The disadvantages are generally under the heading of cost. All the auction's services have to be paid for. But thousands of companies are happy at having their cars sold under the hammer.

Alternatives include selling to a number of dealers. This introduces an element of competition which could mean that prices are likely to stay around the current market figure.

A lot of firms sell to staff, but few seem to want to recommend it as a decent option. As a perk and as a contribution to staff satisfaction, it has its point, but it can introduce complications. Getting the price right is difficult. Staff always think it should be cheaper—and if something goes wrong after the transaction, ill feeling can be engendered. There are seldom enough buyers for all the cars and there will be some unpopular models that no one wants. Trade buyers or auctions are seldom happy, after the staff have had their pick, to be offered the dregs.

Part exchange can be convenient, but not always. Time can be absorbed in collecting cars, arranging viewing, haggling over prices, and sometimes in collecting payment. Dealers may well be queuing to buy the best cars while nobody wants to know about the high mileage and tatty examples.

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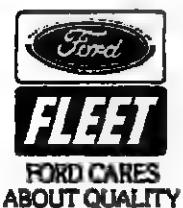
You know what normally happens if you slam your brakes on really hard. The front wheels lock, sometimes the back wheels as well. And, no matter which way you steer, the car skids straight on. Or, worse still, slams sideways. To stop this happening you can try cadence braking, the technique of pumping your brakes as fast as you can to prevent the car skidding. But even the most experienced driver will usually forget to do this in that moment of horror when an accident seems inevitable.

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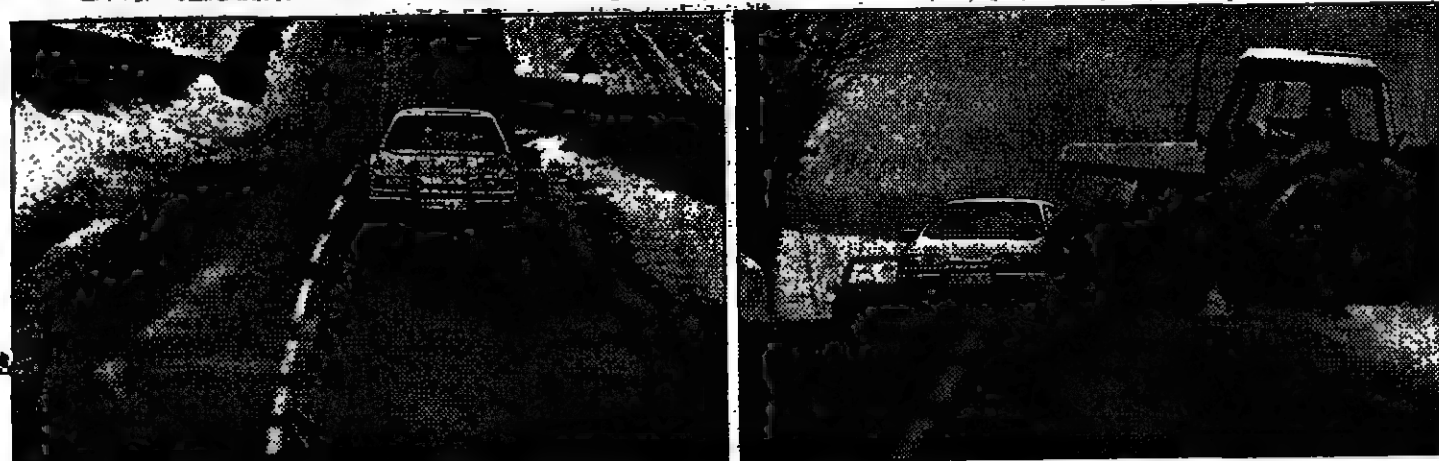
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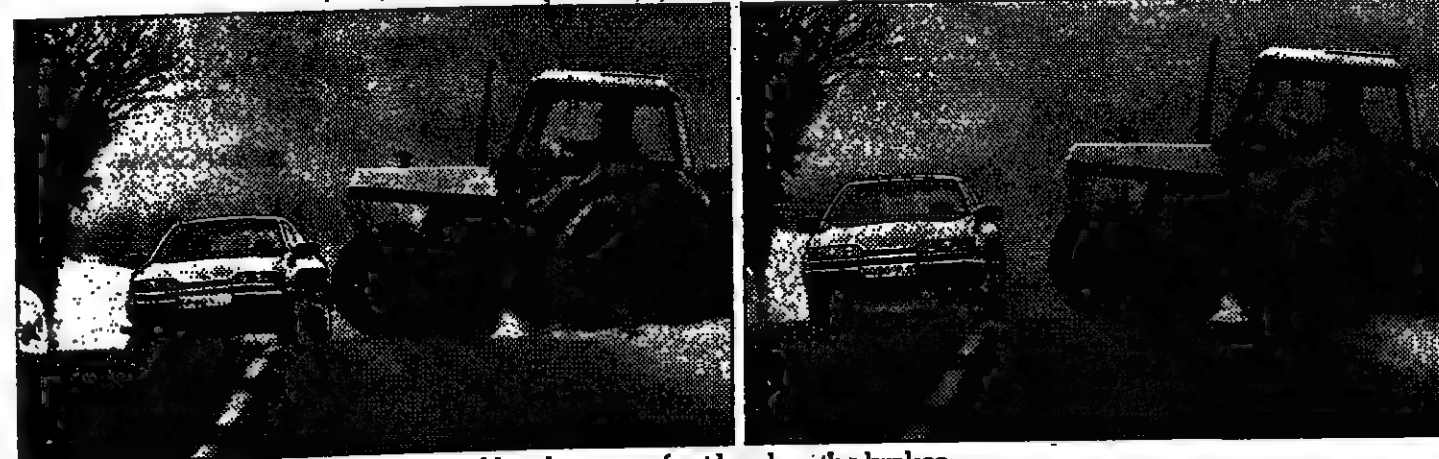
FORD CARS ABOUT QUALITY



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BMW — strong executive class seller with tax advantages

When it's bad form for the chairman to run a Roller

EXECUTIVE CHOICE Kevin Blick

A STUDY of new Rolls-Royce sales is a handy rule of thumb guide to the state of the economy. Time was when a Rolls was perfect proof of that old aphorism "money makes money." Such was the demand that the knowledgeable chairman was able to take delivery of his regular Rolls-Royce, run it for a year or so and then sell it for virtually what he paid for it. No other style of luxury travel could compare on cost. Then the recession struck. It became bad form for the chairman to drive to work in a Rolls whilst laying-off workers, so sales dipped, resale values slipped too and once depreciation became a significant ownership factor, yet fewer companies could justify purchasing £50,000+ motorcars. Meanwhile, in the company's vital American market a combination of high interest rates and high £ values was taking its toll.

As a result, Rolls-Royce output dropped from 3,013 in 1980 to just 1,568 in 1983. Last year the company promised that recovery had begun — though it ended the year in Britain no better. 1985 looks more promising: sales in the first four months are up from 230 last year to 261. Perhaps the recession is over? Not every top-line car manufacturer has suffered as badly as Rolls-Royce through the economic gloom of recent years. Remember that 1983 and 1984 were record new car sales years in the UK as the car companies vied with each other for vital market share.

The German manufacturers, in particular, seem to have been almost recession-proof. BMW, Mercedes-Benz and Audi have that significant 22 per cent share of the direc-



Bentley's Project 90 — planning a future coupe model



Volvo 360 — resale value bonus

tors' car market, according to the CSR survey but they have gained it by a policy of steady growth not hard-sell, money-off techniques. The German companies — and others, notably Volvo — have grasped the importance of protecting resale values. Their policies of steady growth have ensured that demand levels are always strong and that dealers need not indulge in wide-scale discounting. Using relatively small but very high quality dealer networks, they have also determined to hold on to customers through a range of services — loan cars, car collection and delivery schemes and so on. Porsche, for instance, has only 28 dealers across the country — and no desire to expand — but they all exceed the factory's highest laid down standards. It is a policy that has paid off spectacularly well — last year all the prestige German saloon car builders were able to increase sales and share in

the UK in spite of the damaging effects of the lengthy German metalworkers' strike.

As well as marketing expertise, the Germans have been able to build up an enviable reputation in the directors' car classes as technological innovators. Witness the rapid resurgence of Audi as a force once it developed four-wheel drive, a flush-glassed body and wrapped the lot up in an inspired slogan "Vorsprung durch Technik."

BMW, Mercedes, and Audi will be keeping a very close watch on the progress of the higher-series Ford Granada models this year as Ford has well and truly grasped the nettle of innovation in its new design. In reality, it is a fellow German but over here we see it in the same showrooms as Humdum, Escorts and Sierras. Will it have the cachet to attract customers from the glamour of BMW and its ilk?

Keeping abreast of new

technology is demanding, even for a multinational of Ford's class. For small companies like Saab and Alfa Romeo, it can be crippling. The answer is cooperation — and Saab, Alfa, Lancia, and Fiat did just that on their new executive model.

Saab pulled out before the end but still reckoned to save a year's development time through the venture: its 900 model will be here this autumn. Lancia's version, the Thema, is due shortly — there's a good car crying out for a pinch of BMW image — while Fiat and Alfa models follow next year.

Jaguar has been doing its own new model development and the much talked about XJ40 saloon range should finally appear next year. That is a delay on the original target but no real problem to Jaguar, which has almost doubled sales of the present range in the last three years, and it gives them longer to develop a vital, yet very

difficult newcomer. The present XJ Jaguars are big, heavy cars — strong on luxury. Designing lighter, more fuel efficient cars to be as quiet and comfortable is no easy matter.

Jaguar's resurgence has been well documented (since separating from BL the company has become almost as good at publicity as building cars). In world sales terms it still stands behind its obvious rivals BMW and Mercedes. The new model could bring it closer and latest rumours say that the famous V12 engine will not, as originally planned, be dropped from the newcomer as both German rivals have 12-cylinder models due for launch.

Surprisingly, perhaps, performance models in the upper executive echelons have been enjoying good sales. None does better than Porsche, which has developed to a size far beyond its category rivals. Still small by industry standards, it builds some 40,000+

cars a year — last year's total of 43,970 was a small drop because of the metalworkers' strike.

The same, successful policy of restrained growth coupled with technological innovation has been applied by Porsche. Its investment efforts are massive — currently the heaviest in its history. In 1984 371 millions of a £700 million turnover was invested; this year £24m will be invested and next year £38m — £112m. While the 911 is a rare treat for the enthusiast and the 928 a luxury coupe, Porsche struck gold with first the 924 and now the 944 — almost de rigueur for the successful young businessman.

It has also used its tremendous depth of knowledge and facilities in research and development to act as consultant to outside companies.

In Britain Lotus has at last put itself on a sound financial footing and begun to develop substantial consultancy busi-

ness, too, as the "British Porsche." DeLorean and the Sinclair C5 have gained headlines but there has been much else, too. Toyota has a share in the company and Chrysler is said to be interested as well. Lotus cars are also selling strongly once again: a 30 per cent recovery last year is expected to be followed by a further 22 per cent growth this year and in 1986 the X100 small sports car comes on stream.

After this, the rest are tiddlers. Yet most are thriving. Ferrari has improved the longevity of its models with sine coated steel and reliability with all-round fuel injection. TVR has gone increasingly upmarket, with success, and its latest, fastest 390SE costs more than a Porsche 944. Panther, rescued from oblivion by South Korean businessman Young C. Kim, builds its replica two-seaters profitably and plans greater things with the mid-engined Solo now under development.

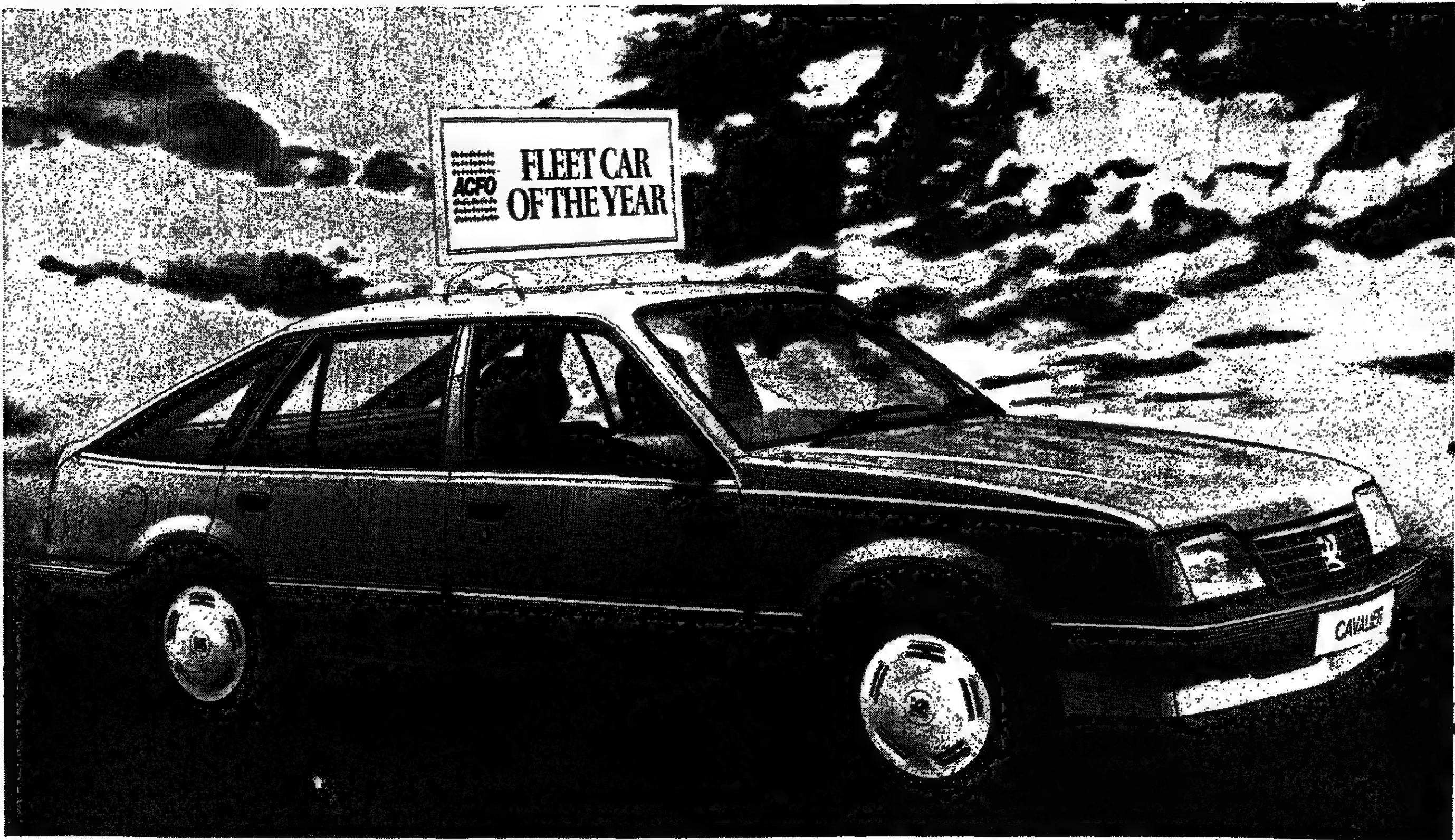
Even Rolls-Royce sees the value of the "younger" market: its marketing of Bentley as a separate, sportier name has been a considerable success and the Mullanne Turbo is now joined by other versions whose firmer suspension is aimed at the driver-owner not the chauffeur. Unveiled at the Geneva show earlier this year, too, was Bentley's Project 90 — a scheme for a future coupe model.

As for Martin, in spite of changing owners more frequently than its customers change their cars, it is still ticking along, building about 250 cars a year.

It all sounds highly promising, yet there is a cloud on the horizon — pollution, or rather its control. After witnessing dreadful destruction of its forests from acid rain, West Germany acted unilaterally two years back to propose still new pollution control measures from next year on cars. Since then the measures have been argued across the EEC and the inevitable compromise has been reached — tighter standards will be introduced in stages from 1988, large cars first.

The necessary exhaust catalytic converters will almost certainly reduce performance but the West German government might have acted to reduce performance itself before then by clamping speed limits on the country's autobahnen — the last limit-free roads in Europe.

The confusion and uncertainty of the past months has already damped West German new car sales this year — BMW lost 34 per cent. The prospects for these high technology, high performance led companies is decidedly uncertain — at a time when consumer demand, outside West Germany, is stronger than ever.



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AA to the rescue

How to keep the company on the road

BREAKDOWN
John Blauht

IN SPITE OF the remarkable improvement in engineering and manufacturing technology, today's motor cars are just as likely to break down as their predecessors of fifty years ago. In many ways the advances of production line building techniques have done little to help the problems experienced by motorists. And an entire industry has been built up to cope with roadside breakdown.

The days of roadside repair are, sadly, almost gone. Today's AA patrolman is more often than not defeated by the complications of today's engine and ancillaries and tends to use the recovery facilities provided by that organisation: a trend which is reflected by the majority of such concerns.

This is of little comfort to the company car driver or his fleet manager. While many company cars are often nothing more than a simple salary substitute, many more are a vital tool to the user's trade and when he or she breaks down, the consequences can be more than just irritation and delay. They can include lost sales or contracts.

The prime means of reducing the possibilities of mechanical failure is preventative maintenance. Though it is a good selling point for car manufacturers to extend service intervals to seemingly absurd limits, the canny fleet manager checks vital components at reasonable intervals (every 5,000 miles or so). Driver education is also of some importance.

Company car drivers have,

on the whole, a number of destructive habits which include an apparent inability to check on simple things like oil levels, tyre pressures, tyre wear, and coolant levels. That the majority of breakdowns involve some aspect or other of engine electrics should tell the fleet manager about what sort of spares he should insist all drivers keep in their vehicles, but few do.

The various schemes to aid the stranded motorist are all a good idea for the fleet manager to invest in. The single emergency number facility which most offer makes the whole process simple and effective and needs but one extra facility to be ideal: a replacement car. All the major rental organisations can assist here, and an account facility with Godfrey Davis Europcar (over 270 outlets), Hertz, Avis, Budget, or Swan National is as important a facility to the company car driver as the membership of one of the rescue organisations.

Though all the companies listed below claim to offer a roadside repair facility, it is rare that the majority of repairs can be carried out at the side of the road. The need to carry spares relevant for each particular vehicle precludes it, for one thing. Time also mitigates against such a service, which is why the provision of a car hire credit card is of such importance.

Windscreens companies like Bridgewater, National, Silver Shield, and others also offer special fleet deals and accounts. Each driver has his own account card for rescue, screen repair, and car hire, and he is fully equipped to cope with any emergency.

Europ Assistance, Europ Assistance House, 252 High Street, Croydon, Surrey, CR0 1NF. Tel. 01-680 1234.

Fleet assist package including on-the-spot assistance; towing to authorised repair workshop and financial guarantee to a pre-arranged sum to effect repairs. Optional Goldcare scheme included taking vehicle and passengers to destination of choice.

Autohome Recovery Club, 202/204, Kettering Road, Northampton. Tel. 0604 28730. A national service with over 500 agents, most of whom offer a 24-hour facility. They offer a Freephone number; roadside

repairs and recovery to the garage of the client's choice. Private service starts at £26 per car though fleet accounts can be negotiated.

Automobile Association, Fanum House, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2EA. Tel. 0256 20123. Over 3,000 radio controlled breakdown vehicles and a Relay service which takes vehicle and passengers to destination of choice. Special fleet deals and cover can be arranged as well as special service including Homestart for service at office or driver's home.

Mondial Assistance, 3 Church Road, Croydon, Surrey CR0 1SG. Tel. 01-686 2444. Probably the largest rescue organisation in Europe but fairly new to UK. It has over 700 agents here and operates a range of services including roadside repair and get-you-home facility. Special rates are on offer to fleets.

Royal Automobile Club, PO Box 100, RAC House, Lansdowne Road, Croydon, Surrey CR9 2JA. Tel. 01-686 2626. Over 4,000 agents and a fleet of radio con-

trolled vans for recovery and some roadside repair. An At Home service is also available. Fleet discounts can be negotiated. Membership does not include entry to the RAC Club in Pall Mall.

National Breakdown Recovery Club, Cleckheaton Road, Low Moor, Bradford, West Yorkshire BD12 0ND. Tel. 0274 671299. Over 1,500 appointed agents offering 24 hour repair and recovery and delivery of car and passengers to chosen destination. Fleet packages easily arranged.

Red Rovers (including Car Recovery Service Club) 55-57 Albert Street, Rugby, Warwickshire CV21 2ST. Tel. 0793 62074. Offers a 24-hour breakdown and accident service throughout the UK and includes service outside member's home. A special fleet service includes a nominal membership fee with a charge levied for each time the service is used.

Wagon Recovery, Tithe House, Town Street, Horsforth, Leeds LS18 5LJ. Tel. 0532-583144. The only firm

to specialise in commercial and fleet vehicles. Offers 24-hour/365-day service at fixed rates. Invoiced in arrears. Always try to effect roadside repair rather than arrange for recovery, though this is also part of the service. Two schemes available: A requires payment for repair only as and when used and scheme B with fixed annual premiums.

Fleet Management
edited by Roy Harry

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Transports of delight

Implications of a million cars a year rolling on to the roads along a road system not designed to cope, there are too few petrol stations, and it is inevitable that the drive will produce a large volume, they say, about the spare parts Russian drivers still remove from their windscreen wipers whenever they park, or leaving them where they are to return later, and how tempting to other drivers.

For the new Moskvich, extra spare parts are being produced along with the new unheard-of luxuries like reclining seats. More alarmingly, a special spare-parts factory has been produced. This worries veteran drivers most of all. It was when the old Moskvich died so well in the past (the car's reputation for careful preparation) 20 years ago that the factory director was promoted to deputy minister of transport. He now plans to set up a council to re-engineer the creaking Moskvich plant on the grounds that it was still producing gear as good as new. But he is no worse as the gears rolled by.

abled people, or has disabled friends or family. The Department of Transport's second Mobility Roadshow takes place then at the Transport and Road Research Laboratory at Crowthorne, Berkshire. In addition to the major motor manufacturers, over 100 other exhibitors will be at the show with products ranging from adapted minibuses and caravans to outdoor wheelchairs and car top hoists.

A Tory philosophy that tries to make poverty work

COMMENTARY

Ian Aitken



for some of the lowest paid and most defenceless workers in the country.

But he remained convinced that abolition, by cutting wage costs for small businesses, would create large numbers of new jobs for those currently unemployed. Sustaining the living standards of those whose wages went below the poverty line, he argued, was a job for the tax and social security system rather than employers.

Mind you, that last point looks dangerously like advocacy of a market-bending subsidy, in which the starving workers of sweatshop owners are kept alive and at work by the intervention of the taxpayer; but we will let that pass. It is all in the sacred cause of small businesses, after all.

For the essential point in the abolitionist argument is that there is a direct correlation between wage cuts and new job creation. A recent Treasury paper put the link as high as a one per cent increase in jobs for every one per cent cut in wages.

Now, the Treasury has been accused of deliberately cooking the books to produce this encouraging figure. Moreover, various authorities,

from Lord Kaldor and Cambridge Department of Applied Economics to the Low Pay Unit, have challenged the validity of the calculation. But the abolitionists reply that, even if the correlation is less than this, it remains real.

And so, no doubt, it does. Indeed, the same is probably true of the calculations of those other philanthropically-motivated theorists like the Malthusians, the Wage Fund theorists, the devotees of the Last Hour, and those profound humanitarians who argued that a ban on child labour in the pits and cotton mills would cause more suffering than it relieved.

But Mr Britain is in any case not greatly concerned about the exact figure of the correlation. Though the abolition of the wages councils would lead directly to "some worthwhile new job opportunities," it is the symbolic significance of such a move which really matters. For him, it is the supreme test of Mrs Thatcher's nerve.

And for why? Because abolition would indicate a recognition that the main function of pay rates is to clear labour markets, and that

any attempt to base them on "social justice" has pernicious if unintended effects on the most disadvantaged members of the working population.

The case could scarcely have been put better by one of the academic defenders of the nineteenth century cotton masters. But the most alarming feature of the argument is that this really is the view of Mrs Thatcher and her Gradington Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson. It is quite likely that they, too, will see the abolition of wages councils as the ultimate test of the government's collective nerve.

Happily, there are still many in the Tory Party who do not share this approach, just as there were in the nineteenth century. The Tory Reform Group has already come out against abolition, and Mr Francis Pym's Centre Forward group seems likely to do the same.

Let these Conservatives, who claim to be the inheritors of the One Nation tradition, demonstrate that they too regard the defence of the wages councils as the ultimate test of nerve. After all, the bill, this really is a Disraelian issue.

"They are still citizens of this country even if they break the law... Yes, of course a prime minister must condemn what is wrong. She must. But you must still treat them as citizens of the country."

I then inquired about David Owen, who after all was Mr Callaghan's protégé, whom he promoted to be Foreign Secretary. Here Mr Callaghan showed himself at his Byzantine best. He now possessed, he said amiably, the advantage of free speech for the first time in 35 years. This freedom was, he confessed, like me, very secure. He assured me, very savoury.

By now he was so cordial that I knew for certain he was going to tell me nothing at all about David Owen, but he was still talking so persuasively that I expected him at any moment to declare, "Behold, I show you a mystery." He showed me instead, by way of consummate diversion, what he described as the only picture of the Cabinet taken by a Daily Mirror photographer in two parts, the two parts then having been stuck together to make a whole. This miraculous picture was displayed on a wall, and showed, as Mr Callaghan explained, David Owen next to Shirley, and Shirley next to Roy Jenkins, and Roy Jenkins next to a lamb lying down with the lion.

So I confined myself to saying Neil Kinnock seemed to have a good line in abuse where Dr Owen was concerned, at which Mr Callaghan said Neil had absorbed his Parliamentary history, but that what he had said of Owen was nothing to what Lloyd George had said of Sir John Simon — that he had sat on the fence so long that the iron had entered his soul. I couldn't see any sort of fence on which Dr Owen could be said to have sat, but left that alone, and passed on to betrayal, which is always a congenial topic to any member of the Labour party.

I said the classic betrayer was Ramsay MacDonald, and there were always comparisons made. "Comparisons with me?" No. "With David Owen." "Oh, I see. But the people on the hard Left will tell you that I betrayed the Labour Party. But the ordinary voter doesn't."

No. I changed tack from betrayal to realpolitik, asking Mr Callaghan if it were either possible or wise for a man holding high office to be wholly honest.

He thought, "Possible," he said, "in all things that really matter. I'm not sure that it's always wise. But on the whole I leaned — I suppose this is going to sound frightfully hypocritical — but I leaned towards being honest." Here he called in aid Len Murray general secretary of the TUC, as a witness who would speak in his favour.

Internationally he thought, it might be another matter. If you were dealing with people from countries which had other values, he doubted the wisdom of total honesty. He could think of two countries like that. Having established that he doubted the propriety neither of Russia nor of the United States, I did not pursue the gutting game, as he half invited me, into the other 140-odd sovereign nations of the world.

But, I said, taking a domestic instance, had he himself been wholly honest when... I knew that was coming. He's got an illustration.

Had he been wholly honest when, coming back to Britain from Barbados in the December of 1978, at the beginning of the winter of discontent, he had said, "Crisis? What crisis? Had that been a piece of showmanship? If so, was that entirely honest?"

"If I'd said it, it probably wouldn't have been. I'll tell you what happened. He had returned to Heathrow to be met by a group of reporters, some of them hostile. One of them asked, 'What have you got to say about the chaos that surrounds you?' He had replied that he saw no evidence of chaos, which had appeared as 'Crisis? What crisis?' There was a transport strike and a refuse wasn't being collected, but if that were described as chaos it required a denial from him. The word crisis had not

been used. If he had been asked if there was a crisis in the transport strike he hoped he would have replied yes.

So crisis for chaos. Did he think this was malicious or a mishearing? Well, he said this as a time when the Press was determined to get him. Every day the Sun carried an unflattering cartoon of him as Mr Micawber with a battered hat and baggy trousers. He didn't know whether it was a mishearing or not, although frankly he and the reporters were within six feet of each other.

Now, last year in the Commons, Mr Callaghan had given a warning that we might be drifting into a "crisis" and "chaos" and "poverty". How far had we already sunk? He thought very far. He was worried about the condition of the housing stock in his own city of Cardiff, where council houses had been built last year. Houses by private builders, yes, but 48 per cent of the people in this country didn't have a house of their own and couldn't afford a mortgage. There was scandalous neglect. He remembered an old Irish priest from the south who had told him that socialism meant a job to go to, a house to live in, schools for children, hospitals when you were ill, and dignity in old age. We were neglecting two of those things — housing and jobs.

But not only socialism could offer these things; "I know, but that was his definition."

Did he think that people who did not travel realised how poor and shabby we already were compared with the United States and almost all of Western Europe? "All of Western Europe." I don't think it is appreciated. Although more young people are travelling and are therefore becoming more discontented with this country.

This was certainly something Dr Owen had gone on about wasn't it? "Yes, and I hope the Labour Party won't neglect it. The trouble, when you have a Conservative government and a Labour government, is that people's expectations are so high. And sometimes we add fuel to it by the undertakings we give. I think Neil Kinnock and the shadow cabinet are conscious of that. But even without their saying anything, people's expectations should be higher than they should be."

Because we hadn't the means? Because we haven't the means to realise expectations, and because of the levels to which we are now sinking.

Here Mr Callaghan said he felt it childish for Conservatives to speak of the merits of small business. In a way he welcomed them. Mighty oaks from little acorns grow, and all that. But in Cardiff there had been a steel mill which had to close down. It employed 2,400 people. The site had been cleared and now there were 40 new workshops on it, with wide grass verges and trees. He had doubted if those 40 businesses employed as many as 20 people each. That made at the most 800 people where 2,400 once worked. Of which he was a patron, was absolutely necessary. "I and it discouraging when Mrs Thatcher pours water on it merely because Mr Heath is a member, or we old has-beens are members. By God, we've still got the right to feel concerned what's happening."

I mentioned that there were a lot of former prime ministers around these days.

How much did they see of each other? "Harold and I, Macmillan, that is, we meet from time to time. And always enjoy each other. Company. Harold, Wilson, and I don't meet socially. We hardly ever did. But we do meet and talk. Ted Heath and Alec Home, we all meet; we all talk to each other."

Did he know whether there had ever previously been so many ex-prime ministers still living? He thought not. "People used to stay longer in office. That's the fault of the media. Now they consume us."

Tomorrow: Down on the farm. Hopes and Hell, arrogance and deviousness, and Denis Thatcher in Delia.

AT AROUND noon last Wednesday, a matter of hours before the horror of the European Cup disaster unfolded on our television screens, the London Standard was leading its early editions with a banner headline declaring Rape in St. James's Park.

I was on my way to lunch with an American correspondent when I saw it, and commented on this deplorable development when we met. I wondered whether we might now be moving towards an American level of violence in Britain.

"Have a sense of proportion," scoffed my colleague. "In New York we might just possibly lead the paper on 'No Rape in the Park'. But then, that really would be news."

I mention the exchange, not because I wish to minimise the significance of what happened in Brussels last week, and certainly not because I intend to embark on yet another analysis of its causes, but solely because there is some danger that we will lose sight of reality in our anxiety to atone for our discomfiture.

The breast-beating that has followed the Brussels catas-

trophe, natural and appropriate though it is, now seems to be creating an almost hysterical reaction in Britain is a uniquely violent society. Bad manners at the supermarket and discarded tiff-wrappers in the streets are being equated with soccer hooliganism, mugging, murder and rape.

But it simply is not true. We are far from being a uniquely violent society; more violent and bad tempered than we were in the middle decades of this century, perhaps; but certainly not more violent than the Americans, or even the Spaniards or the Italians. And most definitely not more violent than Eighteenth Century Britain.

To be sure, we have the IRA as well as Chelsea, Frome and the National Front. But we do not have the Red Brigades or the Bader-Meinhorst gang. And we do not have the New York subway, thank God — either its muggers or its pistol-toting vigilantes.

So let us keep our heads, and concentrate our thoughts on what is to be done. For it is manifestly true that, even if things are not as bad as in some other parts of the

world, they are certainly getting worse.

As Ken Livingstone conceded, on BBC radio the other day, it is rubbish to argue that unemployment in itself is a cause of what took place in Brussels. Newly refurbished, "Red Ken" pointed out that unemployed youngsters simply had not got the money to pay the fare.

But it would be equally false to suggest that the social conditions of Mrs Thatcher's Britain had nothing to do with it. If "alienation" (to use a Marxist cliché) is the problem, there has been an awful lot of alienation going on during the past six years of radical Conservative rule.

I offer these thoughts, without apology, as a topical introduction to some remarks about a subject which might otherwise appear to be not only irrelevant but even boring and insignificant. I refer to the future of wages councils.

The what? Yes, the wages councils — 26 statutory bodies which currently fix minimum wages for 2.7 million low-paid workers with largely unskilled and ununionised jobs in shops, hotels, restaur-

rants, hairdressing and clothing manufacture. They were originally established in 1909 to deal with the notorious sweatedness of post-Victorian England (and especially London) by that magnificent monument to Twentieth Century British liberalism, the Asquith government.

Their existence has long formed one of the foundation stones of the development of social responsibility in British political history, along with the Factory Acts, free education, state pensions and (eventually) the welfare state. Like many of the others, they are now under threat of abolition from that modern monument to Manchester School Liberalism, the Thatcher Government.

I confess at once that this is a loaded way of introducing an issue which has now become a matter for high level debate by illustrious economists as well as politi-

cians. And although I feel strongly about it, I must acknowledge at once that those who advocate the scrapping of the wages councils do so from the highest of humanitarian motives.

One of them, Mr Sam Brittan of the Financial Times (brother of the Home Secretary) recently went so far as to describe himself as a "market economist with a conscience," and acknowledged that the removal of wages council protection would mean painful pay cuts



Terry Coleman

"I DON'T know," said James Callaghan, "what the introduction to the British passport says now, but you remember the old days."

Having discussed this same matter with Lord Carrington when he was Foreign Secretary, I do remember what the preamble to the British passport said and still says, and recited the words to Mr Callaghan: "Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs requests and requires."

"Requires?" exclaimed Mr Callaghan. (Laughter.) "And I think, you know, in one's innocence, when one went abroad then, to be a citizen of the British Empire was a pretty considerable thing; and you were so regarded."

This conversation came about because I had a little while before seen Mr Callaghan at a screening by Granada Television of two programmes in their End of Empire series. Just before he left, he remarked to the 20 or so present that, having seen those programmes, he was glad that he had been alive while the empire was still in existence. I asked for an interview, he invited me to his room in the Commons, and I asked why he had made that remark.

"Because, I suppose, if I hadn't been alive I should have thought those programmes were an accurate reflection of the whole picture, and I didn't think they were accurate... I don't think they gave a wholly fair description of it. There was so much about the empire that was a credit to us. There was a great deal that wasn't. But we seem constantly ready to emphasise all the things we've done which were discreditable."

He recalled a visit he made as a young MP in 1946 to Sierra Leone, the Gambia, Nigeria, and the Gold Coast when he had seen young District Officers, living in villages up country, working as hard as anyone could have done to improve the lot of their people. Of course, he said, it was all very patronising, and he had no doubt those countries now did better under self government; it was better, he said, governed badly by oneself than to be governed by others.

When I said that earlier this year, also in West Africa, I had seen Englishmen no longer governing anything but still doing their utmost to avert famine, Mr Callaghan said that in a non-political way these people were the lineal descendants of empire, an extension of empire. We should not assume that everyone who had gone out had done so for the worst of motives.

Take India, he said; we had carried to India a legal system, a constitution, and a language which was the only one they shared in common. One of the Granada programmes screened was, on Mr Callaghan said his back, a little while he saw what he thought a wholly unimpressive picture of what happened.

Here I reminded Mr Callaghan that he, also, as he left, congratulated Brian Lapping on some programmes in the series. "Well, of course, I think he brings home to people a great deal that they don't know or have forgotten, and that I didn't think while, but I didn't think that programme was a waste."

I asked if this feeling for empire was nostalgic on Mr Callaghan's part. He said it was. It was at this point that he asked about the preamble

to the passport, and wondered who it was who had said that if we lost India we should descend to the level of a second rate power.

"Probably," he said almost all these things. There was no doubt you could throw out your chest if you were British... But we mustn't have all this conversation about the empire. You'll turn me into an old blimp, and I'm not. I really wasn't a blimp in those days, I promise you, even if I am now."

All right, but wasn't one of his earliest memories that of attending, as a boy of 12, the Wembley Empire Exhibition of 1924? He said it was, and recalled the little train that took you from Australia to South Africa to Canada in two minutes flat. And then, of course, he said, his father and grandfather had been in the navy. His father has served on the West Africa station and been present at the sacking of Benin after the murder of the British consul, in 1897, or whenever it was.

Hadn't his father, as Chief Petty Officer, volunteered to go on Scott's last and fatal expedition of 1912? He said his father had volunteered both for that and for the Royal Yacht Victoria and Albert. Now his father's wife had already been widowed before she was 20, when her first husband, also a seaman, was cut down by a destroyer as he was coming ashore in Devonport harbour. So she said to her second husband, when the choice came, that she would prefer the Victoria and Albert, since Queen Alexandra hated the sea, and the yacht would stay in harbour. Her will prevailed, she was also right about the Queen, and CPO Callaghan used to go on board every morning at 7 and return home every afternoon at 4.

But if he had gone with Scott? "I shouldn't be here. Just think what misery everyone might have been saved. (Laughter.)"

CPO Callaghan later became a coastguard, and died in 1921. The Admiralty at first gave his widow no pension, and then one of 16s a week to keep herself and the young James. They lived in two rooms. Mr Callaghan said he had been back the other day, invited by the captain of a frigate his wife had launched years ago. They had really wanted his wife, who had after all done the launching, and it was his first time he knew what it must be like to be Mr Thatcher. He went to Brixham and saw the old house, and the fish auction where, twice, were a fish merchant used to give him a fish to take home for dinner. They were poor, and he was kind and a member of the same Baptist chapel. The rest of the week it was rain and dripping and cocoa.

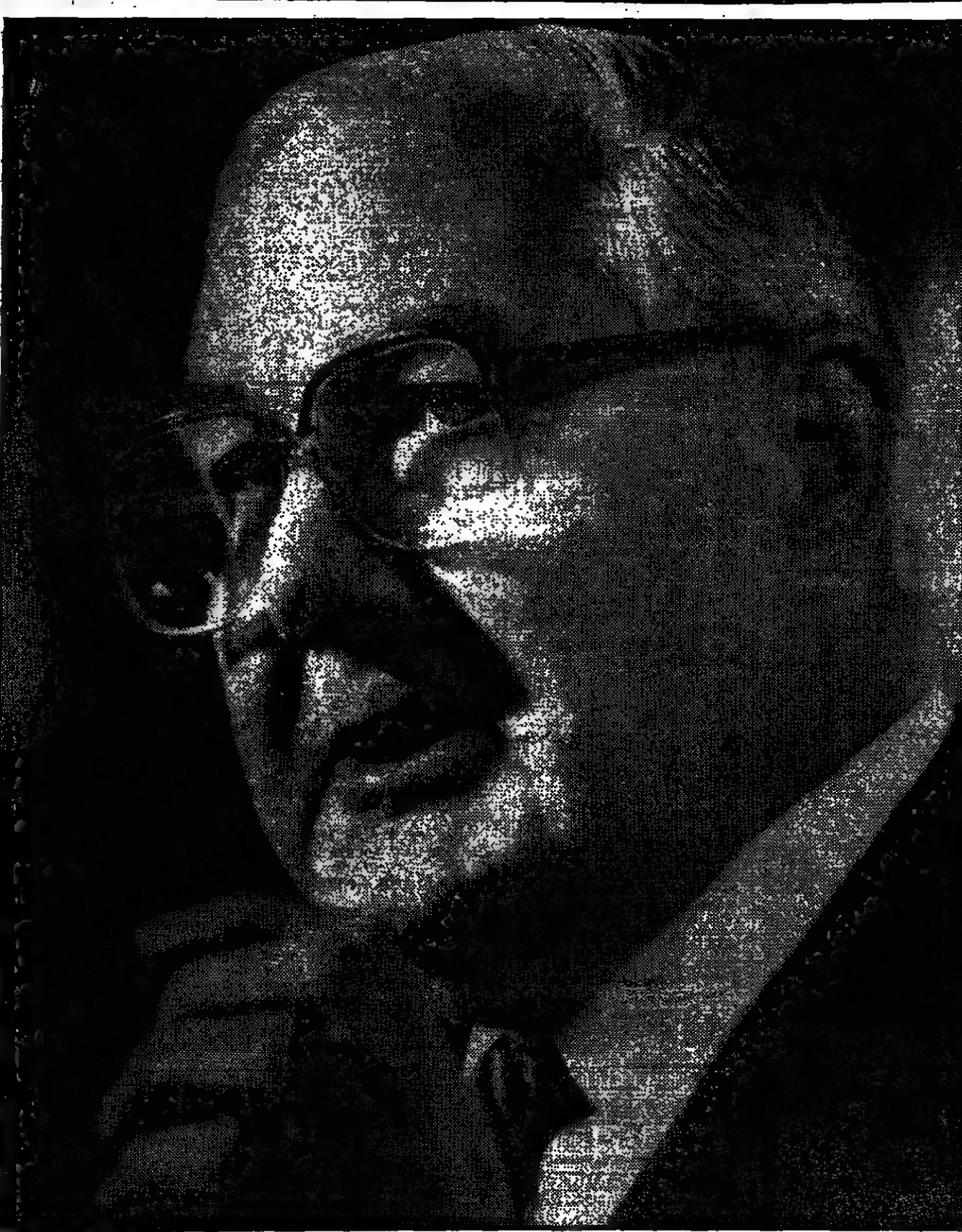
We had found some common ground — by grandfather, like Mr Callaghan's father, being a naval petty officer, then a diver, then a coastguard — and Mr Callaghan was talking freely. But then he said he really didn't want me to believe he spent his life thinking about all these things which would never have crossed his mind.

Then, I said, let's come on to later things. I wanted to ask what had been in his mind at two particular moments. The first was the moment he became Prime Minister.

Here he paused for a long time, and then explained that that first of all he hadn't expected it ever to happen. He had thought Mr Wilson would call him in, thank him for long service, and say something about making way for a younger man. But Mr Wilson had retired, and he became prime minister.

What had he felt at that moment? Mr Callaghan said he felt then and felt now that the nation was one nation; and he scorned Mrs Thatcher when she spoke about the enemy within, and so on. Miners, whether they were on strike or at work, were all our fellow countrymen.

Yes, but at that moment? "I think I had a vision, of course, certainly. I promise you, Mr Coleman, and you really mustn't make fun of this — my wife said I was wrong to give you this inter-



James Callaghan, from bread and dripping to Downing Street. Picture by Don McPhee

JAMES CALLAGHAN: Part One

The top dog who preferred honesty

view because she said you weren't a very kindly man. I said never mind, it's vanity that's making me give it to him. Anyway, I promise you, that when you stand by the prime minister's chair at No. 10 you know that you are a trustee of the past as well as someone who has to try and carry the nation forward into the future. And you do. I'm sure that Mrs Thatcher feels it. I'm sure that any prime minister with a spark of imagination must have felt that the greatness of sitting in that chair. (Then, lowering his voice.) There's so much of empire."

Well, there was his sense of continuity? "No, no, I said it for fun. I said it for fun."

Mr Callaghan said that the former leaders of our colonies and dependencies were always impressed to sit in the Cabinet Room at No. 10. He particularly remembered Mr Begin — who was very glad to be received, because after all there was his terrorist background. Mr Begin sat opposite the prime minister's chair, spread his arms, and declared (a bit, it seemed to me, listening to the description like an Amer-

ican tourist), on what it was like to be in that historic room where so many of the great events in British history had unfolded themselves, and then he ran through some of them, ending up with the Balfour Declaration. And Mr Callaghan politely agreed, and didn't tell him the Balfour Declaration had actually been signed in the Foreign Office.

Now, for the second moment. What had been in Mr Callaghan's mind when he went to the rostrum at the Labour Party conference in 1983 to speak against abandoning our nuclear armaments unilaterally, and had been booed "At the point of booing? Oh, just that I'd fight back. I've Irish blood in my veins. Booing never deters me. Oh, I was angry of course. It was Neil's debut. But I didn't want to spoil it. But when I was accused as I was, I simply felt — and perhaps this was again, some would say, vanity on my part — but I felt that I could not go back on what I had done and said while I was prime minister."

Had he felt any clash between conscience — speaking up for what he believed to

be right — and loyalty, or what might appear to be loyalty, to the party? "No (long pause). I think I'd probably be a little hypocritical if I said this question of loyalty was very much in my mind, because the party seemed at that time to be departing so much from the principles that I had grown up with and lived with. I don't feel that now. I must emphasise that. I think Neil Kinnock is getting back on the road."

But he felt then that the party had gone to the dogs? He said he didn't believe he ever said that. Nor would he ever use that phrase because he cared for the party too much. It was a part of his life. It had taken the place of the Chapel, as it were. He still had not changed his views, but those passions of 1983 had died down a lot.

Did he now regret not having gone to the country in the autumn of 1978 when, as many believed, he might have lost as he did in 1979? His answer was No. That autumn Labour was behind in the opinion polls, there was still another year to run, and what point was there in calling an election if he wasn't in a winning position?

He said it didn't interest him when some people remarked that if he had gone, in the autumn he wouldn't have lost by so much. The point was to win, not to lose more narrowly. Heath had called an election in 1973 and he had been wrong. He (Mr Callaghan) wouldn't have called an election at all if he hadn't been defeated on a vote of confidence. He would have gone right through.

The electoral defeat of 1979 brought us to Mrs Thatcher, whom he thinks remarkable for her resolution, stubbornness, and wrong-headedness. Resolution was admirable, but it was difficult to say where those three characteristics shaded into each other. And the time had been wrong.

Her personal tone Yes; she had not set out to govern the whole country. If people were not with her they were against her, and outside the pale. She had described some trade unionists as no people of this country should be described.

But that had been during the miners' strike, when there was a great deal of illegal and violent picketing

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Is the second most influential person in America steering the Fed into danger?



AMERICAN NOTEBOOK

Alex Brummer

AMID the public relations hype over President Reagan's tax reform bill and the battle of the budget there has scarcely been a moment to mourn the passing of monetarism.

Wall Street no longer pines nervously each Thursday night, like a prospective

father at the maternity ward, waiting for the sharp ring of bells or the flash on the video screen on which fortunes were once made and lost. The money supply figures, once the most over-analysed statistics around, are now calmly shrugged off by all but the most ardent monetarists as irrelevant to national policy-making.

The newspapers which once reported the weekly blips in the figures like holy writ have relegated them from the front pages to the back end of the financial section where they scramble for space among columns of share prices and reports on the Chicago market in hog bellies. Silence has fallen over Beryl Sprinkel in his new seat at the Council of Economic Advisers, and all the other backseat monetarists who were continuously second-guessing the Federal Reserve.

This does not mean that the Federal Reserve has lost its status as the most important voice in economic policy-making. Its reputation ap-

pears unchallenged. The Fed chairman, Mr Paul Volcker, remains second only to the President as the most influential person in America, according to the latest US News and World Report survey.

As Wall Street guru Henry Kaufman of Salomon Brothers put it, "Volcker has been primarily responsible for slowing the rate of inflation and stabilising the financial situation. Indeed, there are those in the financial community who have become so impressed with the Fed they even listen to what Mr Volcker's Californian deputy, Mr Preston Martin has to say when the big man is silent."

The public parting of the ways for monetarism and the Fed came with the cut a fortnight ago in the discount rate. Previous moves by the central bank since the autumn of 1979 when it moved to an openly monetarist approach have been couched in terms of monetary policy and interest rates. But on this occasion

the Fed clearly had wider issues on its mind.

The main concern of the Fed was that, as it put it, output in the "industrial sector" of the economy had been unchanged for some time. It should know: the central bank, not the Commerce Department, keeps the books on industrial output and at best the figures have been sluggish, at worst recessionary. The focus on growth marks a remarkable departure, however, from the targeting of money alone to meet economic objectives.

Pespite the continued optimism from within the administration there is no sign of a turnaround as yet. The latest index of lead economic indicators gave another weak signal. New orders for plant and equipment, for instance, have dropped in eight of the past 11 months, which is hardly encouraging. It is this particular component is regarded as among the most sensitive to the health of the real economy. Among the reasons for the Fed's shift away from war-

ries about money and prices to growth may be the unusual features of this economic cycle. The well-regarded Gring and Samoy Report argues that in the current cycle "the international sector which in past cycles has been of little importance, this time represents both a major drag on the economy and a source of much of its good price performance." The trade gap, once all but ignored by American analysts with their continental perspective, has displaced monetary data as the figure to watch.

For domestic reasons alone there may have been no good reason for pushing interest rates down a notch. Although the April survey for new home sales fell sharply this followed a healthy month in March and the housing industry as a whole is doing well enough. Similarly, motor cars, the other sector of the economy closely driven by interest rates, is also buoyant. Indeed, the Fed's move to lowering the cost of credit at this time might simply be to

drive up the volume of Japanese imports. What this suggests is that for the moment at least the Fed is making its decisions not on domestic monetary considerations but on the value of the dollar on the foreign exchange. It can see that its industrial production series and detailed analysis of the trade data for the economy side is the loss of competitiveness. In effect the Fed appears to have moved from a domestic monetary standard in defining its goals to a dollar standard.

As yet this change in strategy has been to little avail. Although the value of the dollar has dropped some 7 per cent against a currency basket since February it is still a strong currency and its decline has had virtually no impact at all on the trade balance. April figures demonstrated that the gap is still widening and even the generally enthusiastic Commerce Secretary, Mr Malcolm Baldrige, is openly complaining the dollar is too high.

Although the Fed was clearly seeking to lead inflation down with its cut it has had only limited success. The prime rates at 10 per cent remain historically high and the dollar, while it has certainly not depreciated sufficiently to make a significant impact on trade flows. On these grounds alone there is speculation that the Fed may decide to give the dollar another nudge downwards before the summer is over.

These together with a genuine deficit reducing compromise on the budget may help to turn things around. For while both the Senate and the House of Representatives have passed budgets which would save over \$50 billion this year, the two packages remain far apart where defence and social security (retirement pensions) being the main sticking point.

Perhaps the most remarkable aspect of the Fed's move away from monetarism towards the exchange rate is the lack of attention which

is being paid to inflation. In the recent past the Fed has couched almost every move it has made in terms of price stability and the need to reverse the inflationary psychology.

Now at a time when inflation is actually nudging upwards—prices as measured by the wide gross national product measure climbed 3.6 per cent in the first quarter of the year—the Fed is throwing caution to the winds. The monetary economists believe that the Fed has set out on a high risk course and that inflation will follow an upsurge in the money supply as might be expected.

Will the Fed's switch from watching the money supply to the dollar work? It will only be effective if the foreign exchanges are finally convinced that the American budget deficits are coming down. That task may have been indirectly completed by President Reagan's tax reform crusade which analysts fear may be another exercise in voodoo economics.

CBI survey finds anxiety in factories

Industry fears that boom in orders could soon end

By David Simpson, Business Correspondent

The optimism of continued economic growth which has swept UK industry for the past two months is now far more subdued with some firms becoming anxious that the recent rises in demand are slackening off.

The latest Confederation of British Industry monthly survey, published today, records that although companies have record order books, the present boom may be nearing an end.

While a majority of manufacturing industry is reporting order books above normal, a lower number of firms than in either of the last two surveys is anticipating a rise in output over the forthcoming four months.

The strong order books remain largely dependent upon

UK industry's current high level of export demand, but the signs of a new mood of pessimism could owe much to fears that the US economy is now faltering, and that the import demand from the US which has done much to sustain Britain's manufacturers over the past 18 months may be petering out.

"The survey shows that expectations of future rises in output have moderated since March and April although they remain at a higher level than in the second half of last year," the chairman of the CBI's Economic Situation Committee, Mr David Wigglesworth, said.

He warned, "Not all sectors are equally well and members of my committee have expressed concern that the growth in demand may be slackening in some industries."

The high level of orders and output is providing little assistance to the unemployment problem, the CBI concludes. Manufacturing industry is still shedding an average of 9,000 jobs a month and while the numbers of job losses may soon be decreasing, it is impossible to forecast any rise.

The CBI survey also indicated that prices which have been increasing more sharply of late, aiding the inflation rate to rise to its present 6.8 per cent level, are likely to rise at a more modest rate, largely as a result of the stability of sterling, over the next few months.

There are some signs that British industry is investing more heavily in plant and equipment at present, but the longer term forecasts for capital spending are less than buoyant.

Sinclair value falls to £20m

By Maggie Brown

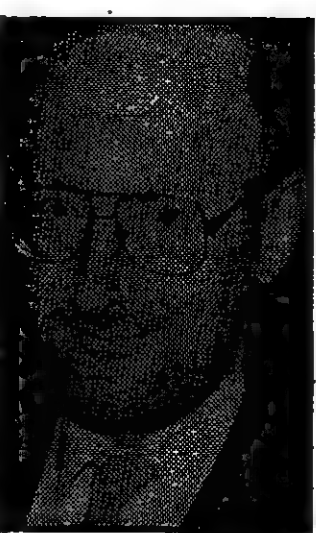
A price tag of no more than £20 million is being placed on Sinclair Research, according to an informed City source close to the company. This is less than a fifth of its value when institutions and pension funds bought a £13 million share stake from Sir Clive Sinclair two years ago.

Any further share sale by Sir Clive who retains 85 per cent of the company, to raise the £10 to £15 million needed to rescue the company is being held up until its accountants, Deloitte, Haskins and Sells, actually sign off the year's audit to March 31. This may occur during the coming week but makes a deal before the end of June look a little unlikely. Sir Clive may have decided

to try to raise part of the cash through selling off Sinclair vehicles, his electric tricycle off shoot, enabling him to attain a larger equity stake than otherwise. Sir Clive's D company Sinclair Research.

But any Sinclair vehicle deal is being handled entirely separately from the efforts to find a major industrial partner for Sinclair being coordinated by N.M. Rothschild, merchant bankers for the company, and Barclays Bank, the main lender. Sir Clive is known to rely on an associate called Mr Clive Body for financial advice on the project.

Sinclair is engaged in an attempt to preserve confidence in both companies: goodwill is an essential part of both businesses.



Sir Clive — new sale?

Ridley plans railway sell-off

By Peter Stanham

BRITAIN'S newest railway line, serving the London Docklands redevelopment is likely to be in private hands when operations start in two years' time under plans now being drawn up for the Transport Secretary, Mr Nicholas Ridley, who is already marshalling a string of privatisation candidates, ranging from British Airways to National Bus.

Proposals for privatisation of the £77 million Docklands Light Railway will have to be agreed between Mr Ridley and the Environment Secretary, Mr Patrick Jenkin, whose departments are jointly funding the project.

A Department of Environment spokesman confirmed yesterday that his department would "like to see the railway privately owned and operated."

A £60 million contract for construction of the railway was awarded last year to a GEC/John Mowlem consortium. The project is being supervised by a joint venture of the clients, London Docklands Development Corporation and London Regional Transport.

The DLR joint board chairman, Mr David Hardy, who is also chairman and chief executive of Globe Investment Trust, has put ideas for possible privatisation to ministers. He would like to see plans finalised before the initial seven-and-a-half mile railway from Tower Hill to the Isle of Dogs starts operation.

Options being considered include outright sale, franchising and a management buy-out.

Britain may lose steel project

From Peter Chapman in Mexico City

A £240 million steel plate project due to be carried out by the Anglo-Mexican Steel Corporation on Mexico's Pacific coast is on the point of being cancelled, according to informed sources here.

Company officials in Mexico City are remaining tight-lipped on the matter in advance of an official announcement expected for this week. It is expected, however, that before long they will be returning to Britain with their families.

If the project is cancelled it will be an unfortunate prelude to the state visit to Britain by President Miguel de la Madrid of Mexico scheduled to begin on June 11. The purpose of

the visit is predominantly commercial and British officials have been hoping for a number of favourable announcements during the visit concerning British projects with Mexico.

The contract for the Las Alamos plate mill in the Mexican state of Nuevo Leon was the largest ever public sector contract awarded by Mexico to a foreign company. However, the contract, awarded in 1982 by the outgoing administration of President Jose Lopez Portillo, has been in trouble from the start.

The current government, led by President de la Madrid, has been reported to be looking for a platform amidst directly accus-

ing the previous administration of wasting scarce economic resources.

While it is generally acknowledged that the Davy McKee-constructed mill would have been one of the leaders of its kind in the world, the combined factors of Mexico's \$95 billion foreign debt and unfavourable conditions on the world steel market have made the government highly reluctant to provide the necessary finance.

A series of difficulties appear to have arisen in relations between Davy McKee and the state steel company, Siderasta. These were reported last February that Davy McKee was about to sue over the matter.

These were denied by the British company. It was generally accepted, however, that Davy McKee was attempting to force the issue and get a clear idea from the Mexican government on where the project stood.

Company employees sent from Britain to carry out Davy McKee's commitments on the project have found themselves for many months in the frustrating position of marking time awaiting word one way or another from the Mexican government.

In the event of the scheme being brought to a formal close, it is understood that Davy McKee would be looking for cancellation fees from the Mexican government of about \$28 million.

House of Fraser buys £26m Debenhams stake

By Margaret Pagnon City Correspondent

House of Fraser, controlled by the Egyptian Al-Fayed brothers, has entered what promises to be a bitter battle for control of Debenhams in its fight to see off the near £500 million bid from the Burton Group.

Last week the Harrods stores group spent £26 million buying a 4.9 per cent stake in Debenhams. In a share-buying spree its brokers, Greaveson Grant, managed to obtain seven million shares while scarcely moving the Debenhams share price, which is still above Burton's bid terms.

House of Fraser said the stake had been bought to be in on the "Debenhams party" but also to help the group stay independent.

The Al-Fayed brothers are not planning a counter-bid for Debenhams, which would be bound, in any case, to meet with resistance from the Office of Fair Trading. But they are believed to be extremely interested in buying various parts of the group such as the neighbouring Knightsbridge

Harvey Nichols store, the Welbeck finance store which has been at around £200 million or even stores in certain cities where the group is not represented.

If Debenhams does go ahead with its management buy-out proposals it may be forced to sell off certain assets to help finance any deal being put together by its merchant bankers, Kleinwort, Benson. Debenhams' chairman, Mr Bob Thornton, denies that the buy-out involves selling off any part of House of Fraser's intervention nor obviously will increase speculation.

Kleinwort, who are also bankers to Al-Fayed and owners of Greaveson Grant, have already said there has been a mass of inquiries from potential buyers for parts of Debenhams.

SE 'will open up'

A MARPLAN poll carried out last week of Stock Exchange members claims they will allow outsiders to take full control of controlling shares but are expected to reject the proposals for transferability of members' shares.

According to the poll, conducted for Lombard Communications, some 70 per cent of members will support the resolution which allows non-exchange members into the exchange.

LLOYDS Bank economic bulletin says there was a "black hole" of £28 billion in the finances of industrial and commercial companies last year, which means they were recorded as making this much more than statistics show they have spent. Part of this may be accounted for

NEWS IN BRIEF

by the fall in the pound, which meant companies borrowed more in sterling.

THE RECENT hurricane which hit the East Coast of America could damage the Commercial Union's hopes of an early end to mounting losses in the United States. Last year the CUI underwriting losses in America amounted to \$201.9 million. One hurricane alone, cost Commercial Union £7 million.

BRITISH AIRWAYS is believed to be interested in buying at least two Concorde from Air France at a price which could be £100 million. Although BA said there are no immediate plans it hopes to start negotiations when it returns to the private sector later this year.

THIS NOTICE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN OFFER FOR SALE AND THE STOCKS LISTED BELOW ARE NOT AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE DIRECT FROM THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

ISSUES OF GOVERNMENT STOCK

The Bank of England announces that Her Majesty's Treasury has created on 31st May 1985, and has issued to the Bank, additional amounts as indicated of each of the following Stocks:

£200 million 11 per cent EXCHEQUER LOAN, 1990
£200 million 10½ per cent CONVERSION STOCK, 1999
£200 million 11½ per cent TREASURY STOCK, 2003-2007

The price paid by the Bank on issue was in each case the middle market closing price of the relevant Stock on 31st May 1985 as certified by the Government Broker. In addition, Her Majesty's Treasury has created on 31st May 1985, and has issued to the National Debt Commissioners, additional amounts of £150 million of 10 per cent Treasury Convertible Stock, 1990.

In each case, the amount issued on 31st May 1985 represents a further tranche of the relevant Stock, ranking in all respects pari passu with that Stock and subject to the terms and conditions and prospectus (save as to the particulars therein which related solely to the initial sale of the Stock), and subject also to the provision contained in the final paragraph of this notice. Application has been made to the Council of the Stock Exchange for each further tranche of Stock to be admitted to the Official List. Copies of the prospectuses for 11 per cent Exchequer Loan, 1990 and 11½ per cent Treasury Stock, 2003-2007, dated 28th February 1985 and 20th July 1979 respectively, and of the prospectus dated 28th April 1983 for 2½ per cent Indexed Treasury Convertible Stock, 1999 (which contained the terms of issue of 10½ per cent Conversion Stock, 1999) may be obtained at the Bank of England, New Issues, Watling Street, London, EC4M 9AA. The Stocks are repayable at par, and interest is payable half-yearly, on the dates shown below.

Stock	Redemption date	Interest payment dates
11 per cent Exchequer Loan, 1990	12th February 1990	12th February
10½ per cent Conversion Stock, 1999	12th November 1999	12th November
11½ per cent Treasury Stock, 2003-2007	22nd January 2007, or as soon as practicable thereafter	22nd January
10½ per cent Treasury Convertible Stock, 1990	22nd January 2003	22nd January
	22nd July 2007	22nd July

The further tranches of 10½ per cent Conversion Stock, 1999 and 11½ per cent Treasury Stock, 2003-2007 will rank for a full six months' interest on the next interest payment date applicable to the relevant Stock. The further tranche of 11 per cent Exchequer Loan, 1990 will rank for interest payment of 24.6342 per cent due on 12th August 1985 on the existing Stock. Official dealings in the Stocks Monday, 3rd June 1985.

Attention is drawn to the statement issued by Her Majesty's Treasury on 29th May 1985 which explained that in the interest of the orderly conduct of fiscal policy, neither Her Majesty's Government nor the Bank of England or their respective servants or agents undertake to disclose tax changes decided on but not yet announced or where they may specifically affect the terms on which, or the conditions under which, these further tranches of the Stock are issued or sold or on behalf of the Government or the Bank; that no responsibility can therefore be accepted for any omission to make such disclosure; and that such omission shall neither render any transaction compensation.

BANK OF ENGLAND
LONDON

31st May 1985

Sinking zinc pleases the bears

COMMODITIES

Robin Stainer

Zinc prices are falling at a time when they would normally be rising. The summer usually brings improved demand for the metal and higher prices, reflecting increased activity in the construction industry.

But, this year, demand appears to be less buoyant than expected and Europe's pessimism has also dissipated some of the earlier bullish sentiment in the market.

The price of zinc in London has dropped to its lowest level for about seven months — just over \$510 a tonne for forward delivery — and is now more than £200 below the 11-year high touched early in March. Even lower prices are likely, according to some analysts, unless the Chinese make unusually big imports later this year, or labour unrest disrupts production. Nevertheless, it has to be said, is so pessimistic, however.

The rise in sterling from its record low against the dollar earlier this year, has obviously played a part in the decline in London Metal Exchange zinc prices, but the reasons go deeper than that. Not least among them is a

reassessment of the market's performance last year, which now appears to have been less strong than first thought. Previous estimates, it seems, overestimated the rise in consumption and the fall in surplus stocks.

According to one of the pessimists, Shearson Lehman Brothers, the 12-month moving average for consumption began to decline in early 1984, and has since then been steadily falling. Demand for zinc — as for aluminium — picked up more quickly than that for other metals, like copper, at the start of the economic recovery and is apparently turning down earlier, too. Apart from the building industry, other big users of the metal include the vehicle industry and the consumer durables sector. All three traditionally react more quickly than the capital goods sector — one of copper's biggest outlets — to changes in the economic cycle.

Fears of an economic slowdown, encouraged last week by the latest decline in leading US economic indicators, have therefore lessened confidence in zinc's price prospects in particular, because its uses are in industries that lead the economic cycle. While the metal's demand profile suggests an increasingly bearish outlook over the longer term, there have also been more immediate developments depressing prices.

Within the past few weeks, European zinc producers have cut their zinc prices by 20 to 30¢ a tonne, a reduction that shows "an acceptance that the physical state of the market is deteriorating," according to commodity broker Rudolf Wolff. Even at the lower level, the producer price is still at a premium to the LME — or free market — price and further cuts are widely predicted.

The latest stock figures have also encouraged bearish sentiment in the market. Holdings of the metal in LME warehouses are now about 10,000 tonnes above the 10-year low of just under 30,000 reached in January. The European Zinc Institute reported last month that Western stocks of primary metal held by smelters rose in April by 4,200 tonnes to 375,700, after falling in the two previous months.

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Cost of cellular phones 'will fall'

By Rosemary Collins

Anyone considering buying a cellular phone should wait 18 months, when prices should have dropped substantially, "unless they take the view that the money they can make by being at the end of a cellular phone right now makes it worth paying the premium to be an early user," says the latest issue of the consumer magazine, What to Buy for Business.

The magazine estimates that by the end of 1986 cellular phone prices, currently around \$1,325 if bought without a dis-

count, will drop below \$1,000, with discount rates bringing the price nearer to \$750.

Equipment prices will drop as new equipment hits the market, the competition heats up, and as the distributors and that they have creamed the easy part of the market — those people so keen to have cellular phones that they are not particularly price sensitive," it claims.

So there are an estimated 6,500 Cellnet subscribers and roughly half as many for the rival product, Vodafone. Cellnet estimates that it will

have 20,000 subscribers by the end of 1985, and Vodafone perhaps 10,000.

Cellnet has better geographical spread as far as Vodafone is concerned. What to Buy for Business points out that some of Vodafone's current television advertising could be thought misleading. The Scottish solicitor-fishing in the Lochs or the holidaymakers cycling in the Highlands would call their Vodafone "as useless as a vandalised BT call box in one of those locations," the magazine points out.

London United Investments
Public Limited Company

	year ended 31st December	
	1984	1983
Turnover	£200's 40,809	£200's 24,636
Operating profit	6,313	5,842
Group overheads	(762)	(877)
Share of profits of associated companies	844	256
Group profit before taxation	8,195	5,221
Taxation	3,000	2,640
Group profit after taxation	3,195	2,581
Extraordinary items	60	245
Group profit after extraordinary items	3,135	2,336
Transfer (to)/from capital reserves	13	(33)
	3,148	2,303
Dividends	1,629	1,412
Retained profit transferred to reserves	1,619	891
Earnings per share	27.16p	24.38p

London United Investments P.L.C. reports that the Group substantially increased its profits during 1984 and that the final dividend has been increased by 1p to 8p per share.

Pre-tax profit rose to £8,195,000 in 1984 from £5,221,000 in 1983, an increase of 18.66%.

A final dividend of 8p per share will be paid on Monday 1st July, 1985 to Shareholders on the register at the close of business on Friday 7th June, 1985, which together with the interim dividend of 5p per share already paid will total 13p per share for the year. This compares with 12p per share for the preceding year.

Copies of the Report and Accounts may be obtained from
The Secretary at 1213 Lime Street, London EC3M 7AA.

Just waiting for the swoop of the vultures

BUSINESS PEOPLE

Mary Brasier and Margareta Pagano on the £500 millions bid for the sprawl that is Debenhams

"GALLERIA sounds like a nasty illness to me," said Bob Thornton chairman of Debenhams, dismissing the main plank of the £500 million bid from Burton and Habitat-Mohercare.

They want to turn the 67 Debenhams stores into mini shopping malls. Thornton says he has been working on that idea for the past two to three years. He will defend the bid mainly by showing Debenhams has a better financial performance in terms of earnings per share, a balance of development programme and that his management team are on the right road to producing a better retailing performance. There will also be sweeteners to shareholders in the form of a scrip issue and a generous dividend.

But Bob Thornton is a wily old bird. Debenhams has been touted as a potential takeover candidate for over 13 years and, sooner or later, it was clear the vultures had to swoop.

So about a year ago, when bid fever accelerated and hot money started to pour into the shares, Thornton called in a merchant bankers, Kleinwort Benson to look at the options available for a management buy-out. His thoughts then and now, as he is at pains to stress, are that a buy-out will only be brought into action as a safety net if he believes that Debenhams is being bought on the cheap. "It is a potent option, and a reconstruction can be carried out if required, but it will not involve selling any of the main components of the business."

Ever since Burton's bid was launched, Kleinwort's corporate men and their computer

models have been working overtime. Over the bank holiday they ran some six different permutations through the computers on how best a buy-out can be achieved.

Kleinwort is working closely with a major US investment bank, believed to be Citicorp, but it also has links with several institutions who may be prepared to stump up the cash if they are convinced that a buy-out is an attractive investment. These range from the US J. P. Morgan and Prudential giants, to the smaller UK Canderog and Globe Electra venture groups with whom Kleinwort has worked before on buy-outs.

But, however, Thornton fights the battle, it will turn on his skills versus the more obvious retailing talents of Ralph Halpern and Sir Terence Conran.

Thornton, a former navigator of torpedo bombers during the war, is relishing the fight ahead. He is adamant that the Debenhams stores group can, and will, stay independent. To a large extent this is very much a personal battle for Thornton. He has never been perceived of as a great retailer by the City community. He needs to demonstrate to both the sharp-eyed analysts casting their slide rules over the group and the managers of the cash hungry pension funds that he can pull off the job he was brought in to do.

Unfortunately Debenhams is still seen as a huge property portfolio which is not earning the right sort of return on capital through its retailing operation. Thornton has achieved a great deal over the last few years but has yet to credibly convince

the outside world that Debenhams can create that magic retailing ingredient—image. That is why the glimmer of names like Sir Terence Conran of Habitat fame and Ralph Halpern at Burton have captured the attention of a large bank of fund managers.

Thornton started out as an accountant for the Scottish brewers Youngers, but then came south to work for Marks & Spencer. He spent 12 years with the grocer which he regards as probably the best in the business, the last two as personal assistant to Marcus Siefert. Then he moved on to British Home Stores and after a couple of years changed direction to take on new challenges at United Builders Merchants.

"All our top managers were dull, turgid accountants"

One fine day he was given the bullet, and swiftly took up the offer in 1974 to become chairman and chief executive of Debenhams. He is also a director of Laine Properties.

"When I came into Debenhams 10 years ago, I found myself with a collection of rotting stores. I had to pay off the debts, set up a staff pension fund, even get cockroaches out of the restaurants. I also started Welbeck Finance in the teeth of expert opposition. All those things cannot be done by being just a retailer," says Thornton.

He is one of the business world's survivors and along the way he says he has become trusted and won

some powerful friends who will help him now. The array of skills needed to run a department store group and which he has picked up during his career such as writing basic computer programs as well as selling women's wear gives him an edge over people like Halpern and Conran, he says.

One of his co-directors says: "Halpern is an innovative man down one narrow lane. Debenhams and Thornton are innovative on a broad front. Successes like the development of Welbeck and the restructuring of the group into specialist trading companies are not immediately perceived as achievements."

But it is the retail performance that counts, and critics point to the fact that last year department stores accounted for only one half of Debenhams' profits. That proportion will rise to 75 per cent in the current year, says Thornton who is preparing a "very cheerful" profits forecast. But he admits that the improvement he has worked on is only now appearing on the shop floor in some of the group's show case outlets and has not really shown up in profit figures. Earnings per share, he claims, are ahead of Burton's and department stores are running well ahead of budget for the first three months of the year.

Nine years ago he brought in Helen Robinson, executive editor of Vogue magazine, with a brief to "improve standards of style and taste." It was not an appointment which immediately bore fruit partly because the job was so vast and partly because Mrs Robinson immediately ran into the political turbulence which typically buffets Debenhams.



Just how Vogue is Debenhams? ... Robert Thornton and Helen Robinson could give you an answer picture by Martin Argles

But Robinson has survived with the help of unstinting support from the chairman who is committed to the idea of women in senior positions in stores groups. She, not surprisingly, is one of his greatest fans and four years ago was made a main board director.

Her job is crucial to Thornton's attempts to keep Debenhams independent. "The style department is central to what we are doing," says Thornton. "We realised we had retail administrative and financial space to each individual department. The head of each department is now running a business, he (or she) is not just a buyer," says Robinson. The system works on tight control of costs and return per sq ft.

Robinson has revamped the buying department in an attempt to get a coordinated look which runs through women's wear, menswear, and even down to bathroom towels. Numbers of suppliers have been cut, so that there is less proliferation of products and looks, and also benefits in shorter lines of communication. Robinson is also deputy chairman of Store Operations which under Debenhams' new decentralised system involves collecting rent and allocating space to each individual department.

The Debenhams approach is predominantly financial rather than retail. There have recently been two new board appointments from the style department, but the other key directors are David Hillyard, with a legal background and Nick Webster, a chartered accountant.

Robinson says it is a system that Conran and Halpern have no experience of. "They have never operated the width of departments or served the age group we are experienced in. One set formula like the Galleria does not work in our stores. They are all different sizes and shapes. You start out with a pre-conception but every time you end up changing what you thought you were going to do."

The Debenhams approach is more visible success under their belts and better credentials on the surface to win the bid for one of the country's largest retail groups. But no one in retailing or the City would underestimate the ability of Thornton to try and wriggle his team off the hook.

None of them threatens to overshadow Thornton who runs Debenhams as a benign dictatorship. "We fight like cat and dog at board meetings," he jokes. But it is not hard to guess who wins the verbal scraps. He is probably the one member of the team who is enjoying himself at the moment, drawing on his wartime experience to drill the less initiated of his team in bid tactics, particularly the need not to panic.

Halpern and Conran have more visible success under their belts and better credentials on the surface to win the bid for one of the country's largest retail groups. But no one in retailing or the City would underestimate the ability of Thornton to try and wriggle his team off the hook.

Finding foreign bodies in the hospital lunch



CONSUMER COLUMN

Rosemary Collins

THE RECENT case of the cockroaches served to patients at the Royal Free Hospital in London, in chicken stew, and excused by the catering manager on the grounds that they were harmless because cooked, is by no means an isolated case.

The British Food Journal, which collates cases like this, reports that last year there were 550 prosecutions involving foreign matter in food. The majority of cases, of course, never come to court and their numbers can only be guessed.

Insects, including maggots, worms and snails, were the second most common contaminant in the cases prosecuted, according to the BFJ, and made up 110 of the total. They found their way into meat pies, sandwiches, takeaway meals, cereal packets, bacon, milk, cheese, chocolate,

canned peas and a variety of other produce. A chopped vole was found in a can of baked beans.

"Not all foreign matter enters food during preparation and processing," the Journal comments.

"Some enter during harvesting and escape observation during preparation."

Many contaminants are "rendered harmless" under treatment, the Journal says, agreeing with the Royal Free Hospital catering manager, and others are indistinguishable from the natural product, like caterpillars in a can of peas.

There is a defence in law of "unavoidable consequence" of collection of fruit and vegetables, and this is frequently used by defendants in court.

It is a defence which can succeed with caterpillars in peas, and last year magistrates found a prosecution brought over the presence of a slug in a pack of cauliflower as "frivolous," but the courts have proved reluctant to accept it in instances of "gross contamination," as the BFJ puts it. This is where packets of pressed dates and figs, for instance, have turned out to contain almost more insects than fruit.

The presence of a foreign object can tell the watchful consumer something about the conditions under which his food was prepared. A bird's wing found last year in a loaf of bread showed that the baking rooms had birds flying around in them.

But although insects and small animals are not uncommon in the list of foreign bodies, the most frequent

find is a piece of metal, which accounted for 115 of the 550 cases prosecuted last year, and which is usually a metal hazardous contaminant. Bits of metal were found in almost every conceivable kind of food, although most commonly in bread.

But although insects and small animals are not uncommon in the list of foreign bodies, the most frequent find is a piece of metal, which accounted for 115 of the 550 cases prosecuted last year, and which is usually a more hazardous contaminant.

The BFJ notes that the number and range of contaminants found varies little from year to year, and always makes up the bulk of cases brought under the Food Hygiene Regulations. Cases involving contamination, or food " unfit for human consumption" make up a relatively insignificant proportion of the total.

But this group still contains higher levels of prosecutions for unfit food in schools, residential homes and similar institutions than elsewhere. "Probably mass catering lends itself to greater neglect," the Journal comments.

Monthly food is comparatively rare. False descriptions are increasingly inviting the attentions of trading standards departments. Last year there were several prosecutions of people selling restructured pork as "ham" and thawed frozen chicken as "fresh."

"The distinction between frozen and fresh opens a wide and controversial field," the Journal says.

The successful prosecution brought by one local authority last year over a thawed chicken should invite others to follow. There is still a regular trickle of cases brought over misleading claims about calorie values, energy content, vitamins and tonic properties of food products.

An excessive amount of water in food has caused concern in some trading standards departments in the past few years. Extra water above an agreed limit should be declared on food labels, but cases are still arriving in court, usually involving frozen chickens or meat products, where a large amount of water has passed undetected. Low-fat spreads, claiming no more than 40 per cent fat, and advertised as slimming aids, have had the removed fat replaced by water, a process known in the trade as "moisturising."

The advances of technology have resulted in a rise in prosecution for false descriptions, replacing to a large extent the old-time "passing off" offences," says the Journal.

The success of our business is subject to certain laws

Understanding these and other natural and commercial laws is essential for a successful financial group.

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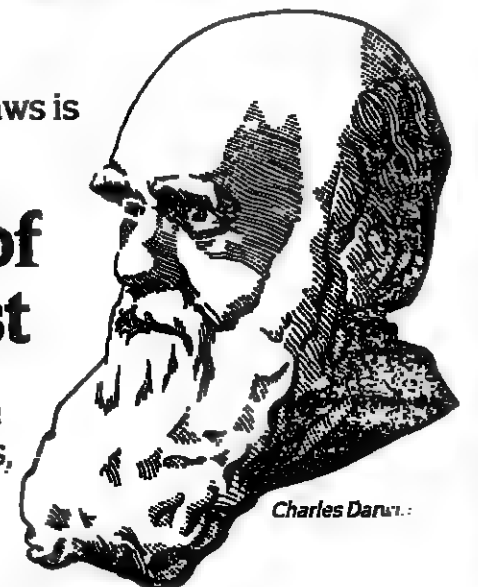
capital was increased by £120 million. Year end shareholders' funds were 50 per cent higher at £224 million.

Energy is related to mass . . . but much more as well

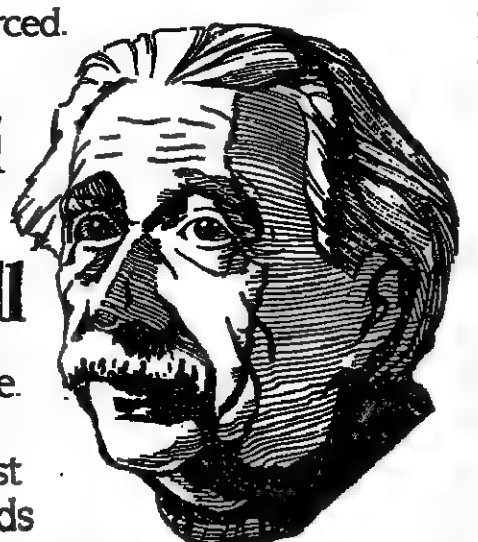
The group's most important asset is its people. We take pride in the teams we have brought together. They operate to the highest professional standards

A lot of good can flow from a big bang

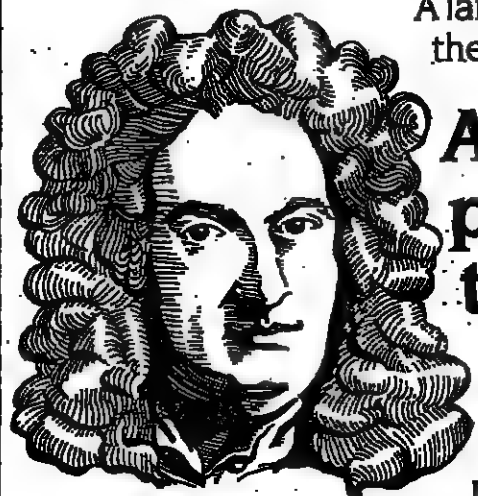
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Results for the year ended 31 March	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981
Profits after taxation (£'000)	31,913	25,302	20,106	15,991	11,293
Earnings per share (pence)	37.53	33.70	27.49	22.29	16.04
Dividends per share (pence)	11.55	10.07	8.71	7.67	6.71

Hill Samuel Group

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SUMMERLEE HERITAGE PARK

Summerlee Heritage Park is today being developed in central Coatbridge as a major tourist attraction and the main centre for the display of historic engineering and heavy industry in Scotland. The site is that of the former Summerlee Iron Works (1837), heavily industrialised in Scotland. The site is that of the earliest railways in Scotland (Monkland and Kirkcaldy 1826) and contains a branch of the Monkland Canal laid down by James Watt (1771). Applications are now invited from persons for the following posts which are temporary for a period of 4 years and funded with the help of the urban Programme:

Manager

£12,660-£13,680

The Manager will be responsible for all aspects of the development, marketing and operation of the Summerlee Heritage Park and will be required to establish the Park as a major tourist attraction in central Scotland and negotiate finance for the longer term running of the Project. He/she will lead a team consisting of Curator, Engineer, Building Supervisor and Clerical Assistant backed up by a substantial

MSC programme. He/she will initially be responsible to the Steering Group of the Summerlee Heritage Trust, until such time as a Summerlee Heritage is created. Applicants should be educated to degree standard and have a proven record in areas such as museum services, visitor attraction and management, tourism promotion, fund-raising and marketing.

If you are interested, then call, write or phone for more information and an application form from the Personnel Officer, Municipal Buildings, Coatbridge. Telephone Coatbridge (0226) 24041, Extension 231. Completed application forms must be returned by 17th JUNE 1985.

EDITOR for MMB Staff Newspaper

The Milk Marketing Board is looking for an editor for its bi-monthly staff newspaper "Contact" which has a circulation of 18,000. It is a new, lively publication and is at an important stage of its development.

Reporting to the Head of the Publications Unit, the successful candidate will be responsible for all aspects of the production of the newspaper, including reporting, sub-editing, control of design and liaison with printers. There will be an additional responsibility for assisting with various other aspects of staff communication.

The successful applicant will have at least 2 years' editorial experience — preferably involving in-house newspapers — excellent writing, editing and communication skills and the ability to work under pressure, occasionally outside normal office hours. It is essential that applicants can type.

Although based at Thames Ditton, a driving licence is essential as travelling throughout England and Wales is required.

Please write with full personal and career details, including examples of your work, and current salary to: Mrs. J. Allinson, Personnel Officer, Milk Marketing Board, Thames Ditton, Surrey KT7 0EL. Tel: 01-898 3244.

MMB

CITY OF LONDON

Barbican Centre for Arts and Conferences

The Barbican Centre provides London with a major complex of Theatres, Concert Hall, Cinema, Art Gallery, Public Library and Conference and Exhibition facilities. The Director wishes to make the following new appointments:

Senior Planning Assistant

Ref. No. 05C0590

The Director wishes to appoint a Senior Planning Assistant who will be responsible to the Head of Planning. He/she will assist in the planning of events in the Barbican Centre with particular emphasis on the programming of concerts in the Concert Hall, and the development of sponsorship.

The successful candidates will have considerable experience in the organisation and management of concerts and a working knowledge of sponsorship. Salary £11,619-£12,771 per annum inclusive of Special Supplement.

Trainee Assistant House Manager

Ref. No. 05E1080

The Director wishes to appoint a Trainee Assistant House Manager who will be responsible to the House Manager. Some experience of management in either the leisure or conference industries, together with a mature and responsible outlook and the ability to work with both clients and the public, often under pressure, are essential requirements. It is hoped that successful completion of a 12-month training period, to include day, evening and weekend work, may lead to a permanent post. Salary £9,258-£10,382 per annum inclusive of Special Supplement.

Contributory pension scheme and annual season ticket (21-25 days' holiday plus five days' discretionary leave). Corporation of London's normal sickness benefit. Please apply in writing enclosing your curriculum vitae and quoting the appropriate reference number by Monday, 10th June, 1985, to: The Director, Barbican Centre (Personnel Section), Barbican, London EC2Y 8DS. Applications from staff of the GLC (and Metropolitan Counties where appropriate) will be particularly welcome.

RE-ADVERTISEMENT

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Anglia Television is seeking a Community Education Officer (CEO) to be responsible for 'follow-up' for adult education programmes on ITV primarily through print, exhibitions and meetings.

In addition to making and maintaining contact with those concerned with adult education in the Anglia region the CEO will also be required to liaise with other companies on national 'follow-up' campaigns. Applicants must have experience in a broadcasting organisation. A knowledge of adult education and the voluntary services would be an advantage.

Applications in writing to Peter Meier, Personnel Controller, Anglia Television Limited, Anglia House, Norwich NR1 3JG, quoting reference 838/G, to arrive not later than Friday, 14th June, 1985. Previous applicants need not re-apply. This vacancy is open to male and female applicants.

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We require someone to work in our bookings department, ideally with previous experience of video facilities. The work will entail close liaison with our clients and technical staff and will necessitate a thorough understanding of the requirements of both. Salary will be negotiable in accordance with experience. Please contact Paul Miller on 01 439 9319 and send full cv. to: Paul Miller Post-Production, 69 Dean Street, London W1V 5NR.

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For details and application form, send SAE to Lucy Wilson, Artists' Agency, c/o Sandford Arts Centre, Sandford Road, Sandhurst, Woking, Surrey.

Artists' Agency is supported by Northern Arts, the Arts Council of Great Britain, the Gulbenkian Foundation, and Tyne & Wear County Council.

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required

For successful new weekly Equestrian magazine published from Leamington Spa.

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Apply in writing to: W. A. Jackson, Managing Editor, 10 Street Street, Windsor, Berks SL4 1BS.

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You will need experience in training or adult education and will have developed or introduced new training materials.

Datasolve

Communication skills are important, as is the ability to look, with an open mind, at training problems. If you would like to apply, telephone Datasolve Education, Computer Based Training group on 01-499 7099 for an application form or contact your local Job Centre. Closing date for applications 14th June 1985.

The National Trust

Regional Information Officer

Assistant Regional Information Officers

We are seeking to appoint a Regional Information Officer and an Assistant Regional Information Officer for our Southern Region, based at Pooleton Lacey, Dorset, Surrey, and an Assistant Regional Information Officer at our North West Region at Ambleside in Cumbria. The REGIONAL INFORMATION OFFICER is responsible for all public relations in the Region, recruitment of and liaison with National Trust members, contact with the press, radio and television, organization of functions and fund-raising. Some evening and weekend work. The successful candidate will be aged over 26, have a university degree or equivalent qualification plus at least five years' experience in public relations.

This post involves considerable travelling for which a car will be provided. Initial salary according to qualifications and experience on a scale £10,810 p.a. to £14,450 p.a.

The two ASSISTANT REGIONAL INFORMATION OFFICERS will be responsible for helping with all aspects of public relations work in the Region as delegated by the Regional Information Officer.

The successful candidates will have at least two years' relevant work experience in public relations, journalism or broadcasting, and preferably be a graduate.

Initial salary on a scale £7,120 to £9,580 p.a. A car will be provided for the post in North West Region where considerable travelling will be involved. Limited travelling will be required in the post in the Southern Region. Applicants should be car-owners and will be reimbursed with a mileage allowance.

A contributory pension scheme applies to all three posts.

For job description and application form please write, specifying which post you are applying for, enclosing a stamped, addressed envelope, to:

Margaret Harries,
Personnel Assistant,
The National Trust,
36 Queen Anne's Gate,
London, SW1A 3AA.
Closing date: 24 June 1985.

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Personnel Officer
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Millbank, London SW1P 4RG

Closing date for the return of completed application forms is 28 June, 1985.

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This new post is an opportunity for someone with a good all round creative background and experience in brochure production and direct mail, to move into management with the market leaders in camping and caravaning holidays to Europe.

Sound copy writing techniques and knowledge of four-colour brochure production will be a great advantage. The ability to work hard and enthusiastically under pressure is essential.

The position is based at our head office in the pleasant Cheshire market town of Knutsford and carries a salary package ranging from £8,800 - £10,000 depending on experience.

Please apply in writing to Julian Rawel, Sales and Marketing Director, Eurocamp Travel Limited, Edmondson House, Tatton Street, Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 6BG.

Eurocamp

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A qualified journalist, who has the determination to root out hard news stories in a fast-developing field, is required for this successful new monthly tabloid for Opticians. In addition to news reporting, this new post will include all other aspects of editorial work, and is an excellent opportunity for a talented journalist to broaden his/her experience. Technical knowledge is not required although a science background could be an advantage.

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Closing date for return of forms: Friday 14th June 1985.

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N

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For an application form and job description, contact the Personnel Department, 105 Piccadilly, London W1V 0AU, Tel 01-229 9495 ext 286. Closing date for receipt of applications: 14th June, 1985.

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Please write with full c.v. and the names of two referees to: Geri Morgan, Principal, Byam Shaw School of Art, 70 Campden Street, London W8 7EW.

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Tel: 01-262 6405 for further information or to send in your application. For the Director, GLAAS, 140 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4A 3BT for job description and application form. Closing date 14th June, 1985.



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Please telephone for an application form, or apply in writing, giving full personal and career details, to: Christine Greaves, King's College, London, Strand, London WC2R 2LS. Tel: 01-836 5454, ext 2288.



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Geography & Earth Science (55/57) — to act with respect to his research as secretary to the Dean of Social Studies and the Head of Department. In addition to excellent typing and shorthand / audio skills, a good educational background is required. An interest in current affairs and a working knowledge of French would be an advantage. Salary £5284-£5459 plus £1233 London Allowance and responsibility allowance of £408 per annum.

Biological Engineering (55/59) — to act as secretary to a Professor and provide assistance to other members of the academic staff in the Department. In addition to normal secretarial duties, there will be responsibility for administration relating to student admissions and examinations. Evidence of word processing would be an advantage. Salary £5284-£5459 plus £1233 London Allowance p.a.

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Junior Secretary — Faculty of Law (55/40) — an opportunity for a young person to gain experience in secretarial work. Ideal first job for College leaver. Salary £3276-£4583 + £1233 London Allowance.

For any of these posts, please apply by letter to the Assistant Personnel Officer, Queen Mary College, Mile End Road, London E1 4NS, closing date 7th June 1985. Please state clearly the role (No) for the post(s) you wish to apply for.

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We are looking for secretaries with good shorthand and typing skills to work in our Editorial and Production Departments at our King's Road office. Word processing experience would be useful, although training will be given.

In addition to a competitive salary we offer a twice yearly bonus, travel supplement and £1.05 per day L.V's. If you would like to be considered for these stimulating and busy positions please write giving full details of previous experience and qualifications to:

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Right salary for the right person.

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Salary in the range £5,617-£7,580 per annum, according to experience. 34 days leave, including public holidays.

A job description is available from the Personnel Department 01-274 6222 Ext 2040. Applications including full curriculum vitae and names of two referees, should be sent to: The Secretary, King's College School of Education, University of London, London WC2R 2LS, by 17 June 1985.

Please contact Judith Palfrey or Sue Jones 01-631 1541

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Salaries will be negotiable up to £9,000.

For further details and application form please write to:

Mrs. L. F. MacGregor

Personnel Officer

The British Computer Society

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You will assist the secretary to the Chairman and the Managing Director and will be required to work for these two Directors in his absence. Your speeds will need to be fast and accurate (110/80) and there will be an early opportunity to learn word processing. A confident telephone manner and an absolute minimum of a year's experience are essential. In return you will earn a very good salary and have five weeks holiday.

Write with c.v. to: Mary Collingborn, Personnel Manager, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, LONDON EC1R 3ER.

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£5,600 to £7,700

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Applicants must have a sense of humour, be well organized, accurate and have the ability to work with a wide range of people. Shorthand is not essential but knowledge of medical terminology, audio and word-processing experience would be advantageous. Please write with curriculum vitae to the Assistant Personnel Officer, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Keppel Street, London WC1E 7HT. Closing date 14 June, 1985.

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If you are aged over 22, possess all the usual secretarial skills (with emphasis on accuracy and good administration) and are interested in this fascinating and very rewarding opportunity, write with full c.v. to: Shirley Stratton, Personnel Assistant, BUPA Hospitals, 26th Bridge House, 300 Grey Inn Road, London WC1R 5EJ. Tel: 01-477 4404, Ext. 200. (No Agencies, Please).

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We are a major International Bank in the City and have a vacancy in our Commercial Lending Department as follows:

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Applicants are asked to write, giving a brief cv, and if possible a telephone number, to:

The Staff Department
60 Gracechurch Street
London EC3V 0HD

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A competent and mature secretary, having sound all round office experience is needed in one of our busy academic departments to provide secretarial and administrative assistance for the Course Director and staff responsible for running a new Fellowship Programme for specially selected engineers in industry. The varied duties will include typing of correspondence, lecture notes and varied work relating to this new programme, both from tapes and handwritten notes. Telephone work and liaison with senior management and participating firms in industry.

Candidates should have had several years' experience in an office environment, good typing and presentation, with the ability to work accurately even under pressure. Wordprocessing experience (Wordway) is desirable although training can be provided. Shorthand would be useful but not essential. Benefits include season ticket loan scheme, 37 days' holidays and excellent sports and recreational facilities.

For further details and an application form please write to Miss Jane Cameron, Personnel Recruitment Assistant, The City University, Northampton Square, London EC1V 0AB, or telephone 01-250 1107 (24-hour service). Closing date for receipt of applications 17 June, 1985.

CURRENT ANTHROPOLOGY (TO BE BASED AT BRUNEL UNIVERSITY, UXBIDGE)

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Current Anthropology is transferring its editorial office to BRUNEL UNIVERSITY in Uxbridge in September, 1985, and invites applications for an Executive Secretary. Applicants should be good organisers with secretarial qualifications, and the ability to work on their own initiative, in order to run the editorial office and to act as secretary to the Editor. The appointment will be made at an appropriate point on the University Secretariat Grade 3 scale (£5,844 to £8,459 plus £1,233 per annum London Allowance). Experience with a word processor would be an advantage.

Please write, enclosing a c.v. (and references) and naming two referees, to: Professor Adam Kuper, Editor, Current Anthropology, Institute of Cultural and Social Studies, University of London, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT, or telephone 01-250 1107 (24-hour service). Closing date for receipt of applications 17 June, 1985.

This position is initially for a period of two years six months.

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The Newspaper Publishers Association Ltd. is seeking to recruit a Committee Secretary to undertake responsibility for the servicing of its Executive and Holiday Committees.

The chosen person will be responsible to the Advertising Secretary for the fulfilment of these duties, for handling all matters relating to travel advertising on a day-to-day basis, and to acting as personal secretary to the Advertising Secretary. The ideal candidate will have the ability and experience to deal with Committee work, should possess good secretarial skills and will be required to liaise at all levels. The ability to work on own initiative and at times under pressure is essential. Salary negotiable.

Please write enclosing c.v. to: Mr. J. E. LePage, Director, Newspaper Publishers Association Ltd., 6 Bourville Street, London EC3V 8AY.

Board prepares to announce thousands more redundancies

Nacods unmoved by pledges on closure reviews

By Peter Hetherington, Northern Labour Correspondent

Further disruption in the coal industry is likely today as leaders of the pit deputies' union, Nacods, meet to consider fresh proposals from the National Coal Board for ending a two-week overtime ban.

While more collieries face production hold-ups because of lack of essential safety and maintenance work, the 10-man executive of the union, the National Association of Colliery Overmen, Deputies and Shotfired, will discuss a week end letter from the NCB's deputy chairman, Mr James Cowan.

It attempts to reassure Nacods on the issue at the heart of the increasingly bitter dispute — colliery review procedures before pits close.

Nacods seems likely to be unimpressed with the reassurances in a week when the NCB is preparing to announce several thousand more redundancies and the rundown of more pits in north and south Yorkshire.

The board has already announced 5,500 jobs losses in the Doncaster and Barnsley areas — where the unions have no disagreement with the review procedures. But the NCB is now said to be so many volunteers for redundancy that more than 20,000 men are expected to leave the industry this year.

As some colliery managers prepare to take a tougher line against Nacods after a directive from the board, Mr Cowan has told the union that the NCB will preserve the status quo at a threatened pit closure.

"This could mean that it will delay accepting volunteers for redundancy or transfer while

the pit goes through the review procedure.

Mr Cowan has also said that the board will preserve the fabric of a threatened pit while a review takes place, even if only Nacods objects. But he insists that the board will not be deterred from running down manpower if other unions wish to accept redundancy.

The Nacods leadership is likely to take the view that the board's latest proposals are still at variance with an agreement reached between the union and the NCB last October.

"They say they are going to honour an agreement but on terms much more favourable to them," one senior negotiator said. "We agreed that every pit should go through the procedure last October."

Nacods, with some passive support from the colliery management association claims that in some instances — notably at the Bates Colliery in Northumberland — the NCB is attempting to close pits by stealth.

The union says that the board is announcing the rundown of pits and appealing for redundancy volunteers and transfers, before a final closure decision has been taken.

At some pits, notably in the Midlands, the Nacods overtime ban has effectively become a work-to-rule, with thousands of NUM members being sent home on occasions because of delays in safety inspections and maintenance work.

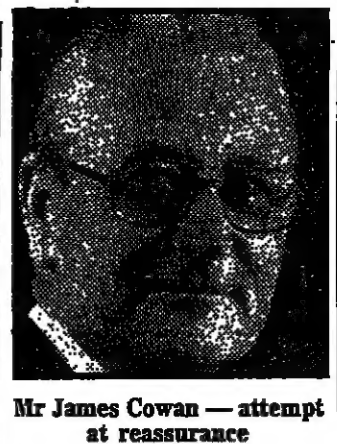
Many collieries were closed last week because of the Whit-holiday. More disruption as a result of tougher tactics by local management seems certain, with some deputies being sent home.

Nacods leaders have already estimated that their overtime ban cost £24 million in lost production in the first week alone.

Call to review sentences

A campaign to win a review of the life sentences imposed on two Welsh miners for the murder of a taxi driver during the coal strike is to be mounted by the Wales Congress in Support of Mining Communities.

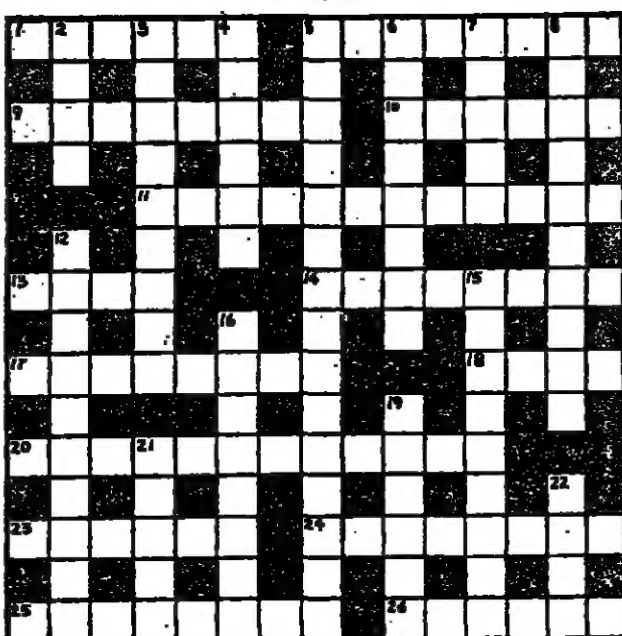
The congress took the decision to start a campaign unanimously at its inaugural conference at Maesteg, Mid-Glamorgan at the weekend.



Mr James Cowan — attempt at reassurance

GUARDIAN CROSSWORD 17,252

CRISPA



ACROSS

- Down town one may see a report on gold (6).
- Calling for company (8).
- The current went round a different way — not North (8).
- A section of the church holds it back, as is natural (6).
- Fashion is in a sense agonising (5-7).
- Food offered in some nunneries (4).
- Dicky expected to be left out (8).
- Animal doctor — a good man, devil take him! (8).
- Grants for snow-clearance (4).
- Review having to do with yield (12).
- An expedition one lot of servicemen like in retrospect (6).
- Turn rude — badly brought up (8).
- Beasts responsible for the present transport system (6).

DOWN

- The German occupied by English exercises appears more profound (8).
- She arranges articles back-to-back (4).
- A dog of the hare! (9).
- Managed to hold a dry stick (6).
- An old constable may have Turner's beret now (3, 6, 8).
- A few words might be fine (8).
- Made a record that's well-known (5).
- Events seen quite differently by the under-eighteens (10).
- Think to enslave? (10).
- Penny and Rose appealing for wage (8).
- Complaint with many in residence (8).
- Taking a pride in being well-matched (6).
- Bringing a well-qualified man in very quickly (5).
- Married before — simple (4).

Solution tomorrow

SOLUTION (left) to PRIZE PUZZLE 17,245

Winner of this week's £20 prize is Mrs P. A. Greenwood, of 24 Reed Road, Tottenham, London N17. Runners-up (£10 book token each) are: R. G. Armstrong, of 17 Woodman Close, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE26 2RB; W. R. Bradford, of 13 King's Ride, Camberley, Surrey; and H. White, of 6 Nelson Fields, Coalville, Leicestershire LE6 5DX.

Clubs must find cash to curb hooligans

By James Naughtie, Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister will tell the Commons today that she expects football clubs to finance the security measures she considers necessary at all grounds to curb hooliganism. In suggesting the introduction of identity cards, video screening of crowds and perhaps compulsory all-ticket matches for the bigger clubs, Mrs Thatcher will tell the football authorities to produce a series of proposals within the next few weeks or face legislation in the next parliamentary session to enforce change.

Her insistence on radical

changes after the 38 deaths in last week's riot in Brussels will be coupled with a demand for clubs to find the money necessary from their own resources — a policy which the president of the Football League, Mr Jack Dunnett, said yesterday would put many clubs out of business. Asked on ITV's Weekend World if the clubs could finance the changes envisaged by Mrs Thatcher, he said: "It is completely impossible. It's a declining industry for the reasons we all know — either activities, now hooliganism. The alternative, though, is to go to the other extreme and

just pick these clubs that are viable. You then finish up with perhaps 10 or 12 clubs which are the only ones that are really viable year in, year out. What I think is, a number of clubs will disappear because they cannot afford to do all the works which I believe to be essential. Mrs Thatcher is said to be convinced that it is unreasonable for club chairmen to complain about a lack of resources at a time when the inflated transfer market is booming. The Labour leader, Mr Neil Kinnock, yesterday described a

block on European football by English clubs as rewarding the thugs for their thuggery. Speaking at Heathrow Airport on his return from Vienna, he said: "The only people likely to celebrate action of this kind are those who are totally destructive in their attitudes, like the animals who go on the rampage at football grounds." He insisted that pulling out of international competition is no answer. "It is a form of penance, yes, but not an answer," he said. The thugs were certainly not impressed.

A bill is being drafted to bring England and Wales into line with Scotland in banning alcohol at grounds and on trains or buses bound for matches. With the expected operation of all opposition parties, it will become law before the end of July. If the clubs do not produce proposals which the Government consider satisfactory next session's legislation to reform the Public Order Act will include measures to allow the Home Secretary to designate grounds for a series of compulsory measures to control crowds by the use of cameras,

identity cards and ticket control. Mr Gerald Kaufman, the shadow home secretary, said that Mrs Thatcher should order an emergency inquiry into the unparalleled breakdown of law and order in many parts of Britain. He said in his Manchester constituency: "The crucial question the nation will be asking is, will Mrs Thatcher ever trust an emergency inquiry into the roots of the sickness for which Brussels and Birmingham (where a supporter died last month) are dreadful symptoms?"

Festival convoy poised to roll

Continued from page one

said: "It's dreadful having to put up with this. If there were any hills we would head for them." The police were marvellous and deserved a break from criticism.

Julie, a would-be festival-goer picking glass from the shattered window of her bus, did not agree. She said her son Richard, aged eight, was in the bus which was stationary when police smashed the windows, and he was still shocked.

"Have a look inside," said another member of the convoy. "These are people's homes. We're the 'Peace Convoy'. We're not used to this sort of thing." Police shooed us from the field and manned all the gaps in the fence.

Almost all would-be festival-goers said that they would try again to reach the Stonehenge site and the ancient Order of Druids still hopes to hold a solstice ceremony, Mr Alan Yorath, of the Stonehenge Association, one of many groups involved in the festival, was determined that it would go ahead.

At Parkhouse garage Mr John Sheppard described how he had shut off electricity, battened windows and closed off his 3,000 gallons of petrol when the struggle spilled on to the roundabout opposite.

He and his staff had seen a lorry full of young people career the wrong way round the roundabout, smash into a fire engine and disappear under a swarm of policemen. "It was like one of those riots from Northern Ireland you see on TV," he said. "They had 32 ambulances lined up here."

About 300 people attempted to occupy the old Stonehenge festival camp site on Saturday and were blocked by police as they reached the last razor-wire fence.

The Chief Constable of Wiltshire, Mr Lionel Grundy, declined to hold a press conference to deal with accusations of undue violence at Cholderton on the grounds that the matter was subjective.

However, a spokesman for Wiltshire police said yesterday: "Any claims of police brutality are ridiculous. Our officers did what they could in the face of the problem and we have nothing but praise for their action."



The Chinese Prime Minister, Mr Zhao Ziyang, with the Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, inspects an RAF guard of honour after his arrival at Heathrow Airport on a six-day British visit

Alliance group tries for schools peace

By Geoff Andrews, Local Correspondent

The newly-formed Alliance group of county councillors yesterday produced its recipe for breaking the deadlock in the teachers' dispute by aiming at a settlement at least in line with inflation, new money from the Government and protection from rate penalties.

Boostered by holding the balance of power in 20 of the 26 hung councils and with six councils now under Alliance control, the group, including representatives from most of the county councils, came up with the package at the end of an all-day meeting in Richmond, Surrey.

The proposals will form the basis of the case for the 30 Alliance councillors on the Association of County Councils, which, with the Labour-controlled Association of Metropolitan Authorities, make up the employers' side of the Burnham committee on teachers' pay and conditions.

With the Alliance group now holding the balance on the county councils' association

even though membership figures have not been finalised, the new deal will become an important factor in bargaining talks in the next two weeks. They will be interested, too, to see whether the initiative affects the refusal of the National Union of Teachers to continue negotiation in the face of government intransigence.

The package is seen as the first stage of a three-year settlement improving the relative pay and conditions of teachers while they would be expected to recognise appraisal of performance.

The group also suggests the formation of a professional teachers' council to be consulted on the criteria on which any appraisal should be based and "on the inclusion of one or more higher grades to reward outstanding classroom teaching."

Any wish to be generous to teachers has been tempered for the Alliance group by the financial situation they have discovered on taking over the purse-strings of the authorities they are running.

BT action warning

By John Ardill, Labour Correspondent

British Telecom could face joint industrial action by engineers and clerical workers after the overwhelming endorsement by clerical staff delegates yesterday of the engineers' strategy of protecting jobs against technological change by seeking reduced hours and improved conditions.

At their first joint conference, in Blackpool, the clerical staff, who recently left the Civil and Public Services Association to merge with the Post Office Engineers to form the National Communications Union, also endorsed the engineers' 12 per cent pay claim. The pay and the conditions claim apply to the Post Office and National Giro as well as BT.

Mr Bryan Stanley, the NCU general secretary, and Ms Jeannie Drake, deputy secretary for the clerical workers, said the broad strategy on hours and conditions had been endorsed in spite of a massive propaganda effort by management.

Fowler to defend benefit cuts

Continued from page one

the 21 to 49 age group at present in the scheme who will have to take out a compulsory private pension. There will also be an option, it is understood, for the under-25s to avoid contributing to a pension scheme at all.

On housing benefits, which affect 7 million people, such essential cuts are expected in the level of payment for rents and rates for those above the

basic poverty line. This includes a controversial option to make tenants pay a proportion of the rates, even if they are very low-paid or unemployed.

On unemployment benefit, options are understood to include increasing payments, but making the benefit available for six months instead of a year and reducing benefits for those under 25. Another proposal expected is the abolition of supplementary benefit to

cover mortgage interest payments for the first six months a person is on the dole.

Supplementary benefit, claimed by over 4 million, is expected to be replaced and renamed. Most of the small additional allowances for diet, heating and clothing are expected to be abolished. But a new system of income support is expected to replace supplementary benefit, with higher rates for pensioners, people with families and the disabled.

Hooligans avoided arrest in mayhem

Continued from page one

ing for culpability amongst the Juventus fans.

Two men were questioned in Liverpool in connection with claims published in Sunday paper that they were ring-leaders in the attack on Juventus fans. The men who had gone to the police voluntarily were not detained. Merseyside police said that there were no plans for Belgian police to come.

Merseyside but there would be continuous liaison with them. A confidential hotline is also expected to be set up — on the lines of that used in Northern Ireland — to encourage people to inform on culprits.

The Attorney General said that it would be impossible for soccer hooligans suspects to be tried and charged in Britain for offences committed abroad. The procedure could only happen in cases of murder, espionage, terrorism or acts covered by international conventions, and terrorism in Ireland.

Mr Michael Disraeli, who said the deaths at Brussels could amount to murder. "I don't think we've seen quite enough evidence to be sure that anyone is responsible."

He said that the Belgian authorities could ask British police to provide evidence of identification of people throwing missiles or being in the forefront of the fatal rush. The National Front has repeatedly denied allegations made by various people, including the Liverpool chairman Mr John Smith, that its members were involved in the rioting. Several witnesses have insisted that most of the hooligans spoke with Cockney or southern accents.

Scotland Yard said that the Metropolitan Police was not conducting any inquiry similar to that being mounted in Liverpool.

The Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, who was in Brussels on Saturday, during an EEC-related visit arranged long before the Heysel disaster, said that although British courts could not deal with the culprits, the Government would "fully understand" if Belgian courts dealt severely with them.

His visit took place in the tautly strained atmosphere produced by the discovery of a bomb outside the Marks and Spencer store in Brussels, and the deeply harrowing departure of the bodies of Italian victims.

Soccer victims' burials halted

From George Armstrong in Rome

A Rome magistrate has halted all burials of the Italian soccer fans who died in Brussels last Wednesday so that second post-mortem examinations can be carried out. The 31 coffins containing the bodies of the Italians were flown into seven Italian airports on Friday night and Saturday and consigned to their families.

Some church funerals were held on Saturday but the actual burials were prevented by orders from Mr Alfredo Rossini, the magistrate, who is leading the Italian inquiries into the deaths.

His ruling that another set of post-mortems be held after those conducted in Brussels has increased the anguish of the families, but by Italian law it is a necessary precaution. Many of the families are expected to lodge law suits against UEFA and the travel agencies which sold the match tickets and an autopsy will carry more weight in Italy.

It is also suspected that some of the dead may have been stabbed — which the Belgian reports apparently have not mentioned.

Italian law allows local courts to indict foreigners for crimes committed against Italians inside Italy.

Mr Rossini's office has asked the police to interrogate all the Italians who were present at Liverpool/Juventus match and many of them already have reported voluntarily to their local police.

The Belgian authorities have been asked to furnish Rome with copies of all television tapes.

The present total of 31 Italian dead—the youngest, Andrea Casula, an 11-year-old Juventus mascot, was seeing his first away game with his father, who was also killed—is likely to increase.

Ten other Italians remain in hospital in Brussels, five of them in coma. There have been a few reports of English residents or tourists being accused by soccer hooligans in various Italian cities or resorts, although the attacks may be unrelated to the Brussels tragedy.

The outgoing left-wing city council in Eboli, the southern town known abroad for Carlo Levi's book, Christ Stopped at Eboli, has voted to name a street for the Italians who lost their lives in Brussels—Via dei Caduti di Bruxelles.

Tomorrow, in the Rome-Basilica of Santa Maria degli Angeli, there is to be a requiem mass for all 38 people who died in Brussels.

THE WEATHER

Hot and sunny

AN anti-cyclone will continue to dominate the weather over most areas.

London, Midlands, East of England: Dry, sunny, with E. light or moderate. Max temp 23 to 25 (24-26 in SE).

SE, East of SE and SW England: Dry, sunny, with E. moderate locally (fresh. Max 23 to 25 (23-25 in SE)).

E. of E. and W. of W. and NE England: S. and N. Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, E. Scotland, E. Ireland: Dry, sunny, with E. light. Max 22 to 24 (22-24 in SE). Cooler on coasts.

Channel Islands: Sunny, with E. light. Max 23 to 25 (23-25 in SE). E. of E. and W. of W. and NE England: S. and N. Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, E. Scotland, E. Ireland: Dry, sunny, with E. light. Max 22 to 24 (22-24 in SE). Cooler on coasts.

Channel Islands: Sunny, with E. light. Max 23 to 25 (23-25 in SE). E. of E. and W. of W. and NE England: S. and N. Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, E. Scotland, E. Ireland: Dry, sunny, with E. light. Max 22 to 24 (22-24 in SE). Cooler on coasts.

Channel Islands: Sunny, with E. light. Max 23 to 25 (23-25 in SE). E. of E. and W. of W. and NE England: S. and N. Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, E. Scotland, E. Ireland: Dry, sunny, with E. light. Max 22 to 24 (22-24 in SE). Cooler on coasts.

Channel Islands: Sunny, with E. light. Max 23 to 25 (23-25 in SE). E. of E. and W. of W. and NE England: S. and N. Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, E. Scotland, E. Ireland: Dry, sunny, with E. light. Max 22 to 24 (22-24 in SE). Cooler on coasts.

Channel Islands: Sunny, with E. light. Max 23 to 25 (23-25 in SE). E. of E. and W. of W. and NE England: S. and N. Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, E. Scotland, E. Ireland: Dry, sunny, with E. light. Max 22 to 24 (22-24 in SE). Cooler on coasts.

Channel Islands: Sunny, with E. light. Max 23 to 25 (23-25 in SE). E. of E. and W. of W. and NE England: S. and N. Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, E. Scotland, E. Ireland: Dry, sunny, with E. light. Max 22 to 24 (22-24 in SE). Cooler on coasts.

AROUND THE WORLD

Reports for the 24 hours to 6 am Saturday.

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Weather
Alaska	5-23	2-7	0-100	Sunny
Canada	10-20	1-10	0-100	Sunny
USA	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Europe	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Asia	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Africa	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Australia	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
South America	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Antarctica	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny

AROUND BRITAIN

Reports for the 24 hours to 6 am Saturday.

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Weather
London	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Edinburgh	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Birmingham	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Manchester	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Cardiff	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Belfast	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Sheffield	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Nottingham	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Leeds	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Coventry	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Southampton	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Exeter	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Gloucester	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Reading	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Oxford	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Cambridge	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
London	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny

WEST COAST

Reports for the 24 hours to 6 am Saturday.

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Weather
London	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Edinburgh	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Birmingham	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Manchester	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Cardiff	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Belfast	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Sheffield	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Nottingham	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Leeds	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Coventry	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Southampton	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Exeter	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Gloucester	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Reading	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Oxford	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
Cambridge	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny
London	15-25	2-12	0-100	Sunny

SOUTH COAST

Reports for the 24 hours to 6 am Saturday.

London	14-25	12-22	0-100	Sunny
Edinburgh	14-25	12-22	0-100	Sunny
Birmingham	14-25	12-22	0-100	Sunny
Manchester	14-25	12-22	0-100	Sunny
Cardiff	15-21	12-22	0-100	Sunny
Belfast	15-21	12-22	0-100	Sunny
Sheffield	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
Nottingham	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
Leeds	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
Coventry	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
Southampton	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
Exeter	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
Gloucester	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
Reading	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
Worcester	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
Swansea	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
Truro	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Austine	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Andrew	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. John	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Peter	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Paul	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
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St. Paul	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. James	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. George	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Mark	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Luke	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. John	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Peter	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Paul	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. James	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. George	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Mark	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Luke	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. John	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Peter	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Paul	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. James	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. George	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Mark	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Luke	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. John	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Peter	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Paul	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. James	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. George	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Mark	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Luke	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. John	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Peter	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Paul	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. James	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. George	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Mark	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Luke	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. John	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Peter	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Paul	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. James	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. George	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Mark	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Luke	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. John	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Peter	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Paul	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. James	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. George	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Mark	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Luke	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. John	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Peter	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Paul	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. James	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. George	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Mark	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Luke	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. John	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Peter	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Paul	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. James	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. George	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Mark	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Luke	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. John	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Peter	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Paul	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. James	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. George	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Mark	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Luke	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
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St. Peter	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Paul	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
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St. Mark	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Luke	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. John	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Peter	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Paul	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. James	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. George	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Mark	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Luke	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. John	15-23	12-22	0-100	Sunny
St. Peter	15-			